

## FROSTY FEBRUARY



Plunging temperatures and heavy snows last week put an end to an uncharacteristic early February thaw. The weather was so unruly on Thursday that some professors cancelled their classes.

Ari Joseph

## College mourns loss of Williams

By Andrea Gissing  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Middlebury College lost a valuable member of the community in Alan Williams after he passed away last week. Williams is survived by his only son, Daniel. A celebration of his life was held Kirk Alumni Center last Sunday.

Williams started working at the College in 1992, first in dining supervising in Proctor, then in catering and in the heating plant. A hard and responsible worker, Williams was known to be perpetually positive and smiling, a man who tried to become a true friend to everyone he met. "He enjoyed working with co-workers," said Kit Quesnel, commons dining room manager. "He encouraged workers to succeed."

"He was one of those people that had a 'twinkle in his eye,'" said Catering Coordinator Mary Reed. "Alan had cancer but never lost his positive attitude. He never gave into it even right up to the end."

Born and raised in England, Williams was a very educated man who liked Shakespeare and the classics. "Sometimes he would get frustrated with us 'bloody Yanks' when we butchered the Queen's English, but he had a wonderful sense of humor," said Ed Prouty, heating plant supervisor.

"All of his co-workers enjoyed his English accent," said Reed. "We would often joke about the differ-

SEE COMMUNITY, PAGE 3

## Faculty revises recruitment policy

By Caroline S. Stauffer  
NEWS EDITOR

At Monday afternoon's faculty meeting, a resolution was easily passed that if approved by the administration will require employers wishing to recruit on campus to sign the College's nondiscrimination agreement.

The resolution calls for the elimination of the possibility to hold an open meeting providing information on the organization's recruitment practices and explaining the rationale behind a specific discriminatory policies. According to the resolution, if employers cannot sign a statement certifying that the opportuni-

ties they offer are available to all qualified Middlebury College students, they will not be able to recruit on campus.

After suspending the rules to consider and vote on the resolution, the faculty voted overwhelmingly in favor of the proposal presented by Baldwin Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy Mike Olinick. The final count was 62 in favor, 28 against with four abstentions.

Sponsors of the resolution included Professor of Sociology and Anthropology Ellen Oxfeld, Professor of Mathematics Priscilla Bremser, Professor of Russian Kevin Moss, Vis-

iting Assistant Professor of Architecture Parker Croft, Professor of Italian Patti Zupan, Associate Professor of Economics Peter Matthews and Professor of Mathematics David Dorman.

The resolution was drafted in response to the presence of Captain David Doucette on campus last week to recruit U.S. Marine Corp officers. After holding an open meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 8, when he explained and answered questions about U.S. Code Title 10 — the country's "Don't ask, Don't tell" policy regarding homosexuals serving in the military — Doucette

SEE STUDENTS, PAGE 6

## Trustees green-light plan of action

By Caroline S. Stauffer  
NEWS EDITOR

The possible acquisition of the Monterey Institute for International Studies (MIIS) in California as a graduate study program, a potential land lease to Porter Hospital and Feb graduation were among the topics discussed at the Trustee meeting last weekend.

The Trustees agreed to continue the investigation of MIIS and President Ronald D. Liebowitz hopes a recommendation to acquire or not will be made at the May Trustee meeting.

The acquisition of MIIS "would not involve a cash purchase or payment on the part of the College, but rather would result in the College absorbing the Institute and assuming responsibility for its programs and finances," according to a memo by Liebowitz. The Institute would function separately in a manner similar to the Middlebury Language Schools, Bread Loaf School of English and Bread Loaf Writers' Conference.

Middlebury would gain a connection to Asian universities to com-



Nirvana Bhatia

President Ronald D. Liebowitz and Jim Keyes of the Board of Trustees were on hand at the SGA meeting Sunday.

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## MIDDBRIEFS

BY MATTIE GRATCH, ERIN MCCORMICK AND LAURA SMITH

## Overdue dining hall opens doors Feb. 8

The recently completed Atwater Dining Hall opened its doors for its first meal on Feb. 8, becoming the second commons eating establishment on campus. The dining facility welcomed 906 visitors, a number that "happily excited the whole staff," according to Matthew Biette, director of Dining Services.

Following Atwater's unveiling, Freeman International Center (FIC) — a former dining hall on campus — was closed in favor of the newly constructed eatery. FIC is currently being used for Friday language table lunches, catering and as a place for groups on campus to cook. All personnel from FIC moved to Atwater, so there was no need to expand staffing with the opening of a new hall.

From the staff's perspective, the opening night of Atwater went smoothly, although there were some complications during service. Without giving the equipment in the kitchen ample time to break in, one of the major parts of the dishwashing system broke on opening night. Biette reassured that there are still "pieces of the puzzle" that need improvement.

The construction for Atwater began approximately two years ago, and the venue was slated for opening last semester. The dining hall is currently open for breakfast, lunch and dinner everyday of the week from 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and again from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

## Students chosen for prestigious internships

The Shepherd Alliance Internship is program offering eight-week, full-time summer internships with non-profit agencies across the eastern United States to 50 selected College students. These internships enable students to experience the many depths of domestic and international poverty while still being able to familiarize themselves with their chosen future careers.

This year, Middlebury College was asked to send two students in anticipation of the College's avid participation in a Poverty Studies curriculum next year. A faculty and staff committee was organized to select the two students for this coming summer's internships. After a difficult selection process, the two selected students are Samuel Taylor '06 and Shui Ying "Rachel" Fong '07.

Taylor, a History major, has a strong interest in civil liberties. He founded a chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) here at Middlebury this past fall, and this summer will work in public advocacy law during his internship. Fong, a native of Hong Kong, is a Neuroscience major. Participating in numerous volunteer service trips across the globe from China to Mexico and Sri Lanka has inspired her interest in bringing healthcare to disadvantaged communities.

## Concerto competition yields budding soloists

On Feb. 8, students competed in the 2005 Middlebury College Concerto Competition at the Center for the Arts (CFA). Three students were selected to perform as soloists with the Middlebury College Orchestra at the March 17 concert in the CFA Concert Hall.

Cellist Adam Morgan '08.5, clarinetist Kevin Ng '08 and soprano Hillary Waite '05 were selected to perform. Ng and Morgan are current members of the college orchestra.

The March 17 concert will also feature the premiere of three works by student composers Andrew Lindblad '05, Jessica Manzer '05 and Jonathan Stuart-Moore '05. All three pieces were written as Independent Study projects and advised by Associate Professor of Music Su Lian Tan.

Dr. Paul Orgel — a Grammy-nominated pianist who taught at Swarthmore College, Haverford College and Temple University before becoming a member of the music faculty at the University of Vermont — judged the competition.

## CORRECTIONS

The photo of the ACTR shuttle that accompanied the article "High demand for Snow Bowl shuttle" was mistakenly attributed to Albert Bitici. The photo was taken by Andrew Cogbill. *The Campus* regrets this error.

## Community Council rejects first-year rush proposal



Sixiao Huo

The Community Council voted down a bill that would allow second semester first-years to rush on Tuesday.

By Thomas C. Drescher

NEWS EDITOR

The Community Council voted by secret ballot Tuesday to recommend to College President Ronald D. Liebowitz that he strike down a proposal that would allow first-year students to rush, pledge and join a social house during their second semester at Middlebury College.

The proposal, heavily supported by the Student Government Association (SGA), failed in Community Council by a reasonably narrow margin of nine votes to six, with two abstentions. The author of the bill, former Inter-House Council (IHC) President and Omega Alpha (Tavern) member Kris Burfitt '05, was in attendance, along with Jay Harbison '05, president of the Mill, for the lively discussion that preceded the vote.

The debate focused on a number of key issues. Discussed at some length was the IHC's desire to expand membership and the social advantages associated with including a broader range of students, as articulated by Burfitt. It was also generally acknowledged that while the social houses are not currently experiencing

anything like an occupancy crisis, the proposed bill would aid in the prevention of future occupancy problems. Additionally, according to Burfitt and others, the inclusion of younger students would help generate a higher level of commitment in house members and infuse the social house system with a new vigor.

Council member Peter McSherry '06 raised the "Feb" argument — current College policy permits Febs to pledge during their second semester as Middlebury students and deny "Regs" the same right is apparently hypocritical.

A number of other Council members, Dean of the College and Professor of American Literature and Civilization Tim Spears, in particular, speculated that giving students, first-years especially, unmitigated freedom of choice was not necessarily appropriate, and that allowing second-semester first-years to join social houses might disrupt the typical process of adjustment to life at Middlebury and negatively affect academic development. SGA President Andrew Jacobi '05, who supports the proposal, countered with the point that the social house pledge

process is entirely voluntary and non-binding. That is, students are of course not obligated to join, and welcome to drop out of rush at any time if they wish.

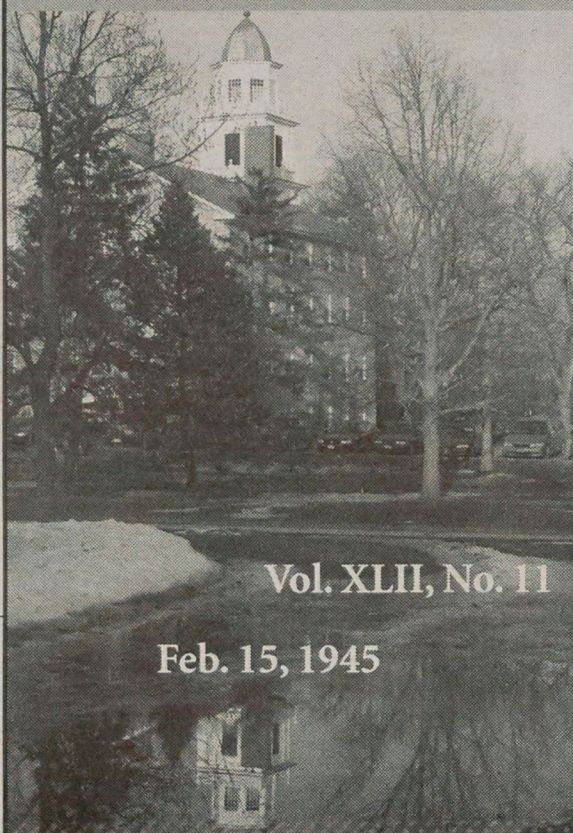
The proposal was treated with intensity, but discussion was not terribly polarized, as many members simply expressed concerns, doubts and opinions regarding the bill's rationale and possible effects. Ultimately, many Council members were skeptical about both the necessity of the proposed change and its potential negative impact on first-year students.

Council members considered voting to recommend a trial period, but inevitable assessment difficulties rendered this modified proposal unpopular.

As Student Co-Chair of Community Council J.S. Woodward '06 tallied the votes, Burfitt expressed his gratitude to the assembly for their due diligence and serious consideration of his bill, which is endorsed by both the IHC and the SGA.

The recommendation derived from Tuesday's vote will be presented to President Liebowitz, who will make a final decision to approve or reject the moderately contentious proposal.

## This Week in Middlebury History



## Sweetheart Waltz Gives Valentine Spirit to Navy's Flirtation Cruise

by Nancy Surtees '47

In recognition of its excellent record during the past term the U.S.S. *Middlebury* rated in A-1 priority for a "Flirtation Cruise" last Saturday night at the High School gym. The members of Company C were the first class passengers.

Appropriate for the date (four days before Valentine's day) the scene was keyed by a huge heart in back of the Panthers. Wherever one turned there were other hearts of all sizes. The canopy of red, white and blue streamers overhead added to the color scheme but proved to be a navigational hazard to anyone over 5'9".

Pres. and Mrs. Samuel S. Strat-

ton led off the procession under the arch, followed by Comdr. And Mrs. Clifford Alderman and Lieut. and Mrs. Elmer D. West. Then, in a long file, came the company! Finally with everyone beaming the procession came to an end and the Annapolis tradition was sure to become one of Midd's customs.

For anyone wanted a preview of the dance, the program committee came through. Lemonade and heart-shaped cookies were the ration of the day, served in a never-ending stream of at two ports-of-call on opposite shores. The Panthers played a well-balanced combination of the "good old songs" and the latest tunes to hit the jukeboxes. At 1200 dreamy-eyed couples said goodbye to romantic seas and returned to a land of slush and snow and rain.

\*\* The above text was modified, using original language from its 1919 publication. \*\*

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Feb. 15, 1945



# College complies with VT tax

## Bookstore extracts new six percent tax on textbooks

By Katie Flagg  
NEWS EDITOR

The Middlebury College Bookstore teemed last week in the customary start-of-term rush. Students — toting large boxes brimming with textbooks — wound their way through long lines, preparing to shell out several hundred dollars a piece for a semester's worth of books.

But on Feb. 15, bookstore lines dwindled and textbook bills swelled. Middlebury students — along with students across Vermont — dipped even deeper into their pocketbooks for bookstore purchases following the implementation of a new state tax statute. In accordance with Vermont state law, the College bookstore now charges students a six percent sales tax on all textbooks. Prior to this change, textbooks and course materials were exempt from any sales tax.

The College was alerted to the policy change by a Jan. 31 memo from the Taxpayer Services Division of the Vermont Department of Taxes. Though the Jan. 31 memo charged the schools should begin charging sales tax on all taxable items immediately, the memo clarified that the Department of Taxes planned to enforce compliance starting on Feb. 15.

What does this mean for the average Middlebury student? For a \$500 textbook bill — a run-of-the-mill bill, according to the College bookstore — the tax adds another \$30 to a student's bill for the semester.

Patrick Norton, College controller, warned students of the impending policy change in a Feb. 11 e-mail. The notice en-

### The new sales tax adds \$30 to a \$500 textbook bill.

couraged students to purchase their textbooks prior to the implementation of the sales tax in order to take advantage of the dwindling days before the College implemented the new policy.

Prior to the Jan. 31 memo, the bookstore operated on a 1969 statute that counted textual materials for use in school as exempt from taxation. While the 1969 law was changed in 1995, the Department of Taxes never sent out a tax advisory.

"Nobody even knew this was on the books," said Norton. "It took us by sur-



Zilai Gan

In compliance with Vermont state law, as of Feb. 15 the College bookstore collects a six percent sales tax on all textbooks sold. Textbooks and educational materials are no longer tax exempt in Vermont. The new tax will add \$30 to the average student's textbook bill.

prise."

"There are a lot of colleges concerned about this," said Norton. Norton noted that textbooks are exempt from taxation in most states, including New York, Rhode Island and Connecticut. "There are a number of states that don't tax textbook sales," he said.

"A lot of states are going in the opposite direction," Norton said, noting that Vermont's move to apply new taxes to textbook sales is unusual.

"We were all very surprised when this came our way," said Bob Santry, manager of the College bookstore.

Peter Mattix of the Association of Vermont Independent Colleges — a special interest group and state-wide coalition of sixteen colleges and universities — is currently lobbying the state legislation to repeal the 1995 statute.

Norton noted that it was "fortuitous" that the tax was implemented a week into the spring semester, allowing many students

**"Nobody even knew this was on the books. It took us by surprise."**

**— Patrick Norton, College Controller**

the opportunity to purchase tax-exempt textbooks.

"Hopefully by the time fall semester starts, the law will have been repealed," said Santry.

But as Norton noted, the College has no choice but to comply with the tax until that point. "We have to comply with the law," he said, "whether we like it or not."

# Community gathers to celebrate life of dining staff member

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ent words or phrases with Alan that he used that we were unaccustomed to. He always took it in the good humor it was meant."

"Alan was always telling his co-workers that he would teach them how to 'speak bloody English,'" said custodian Mary Glidden.

Additionally, Williams had a great love for the maritime, water, and spent his free time reading up on boat making. "He had a great interest in building a sailboat and had had one partially built," said Prouty.

"[Williams] loved his work with the catering service because it brought him in contact with a lot of the students," said Prouty. Williams loved sharing ideas with the students, and even, as Prouty described, "attended a lot of student govern-

ment meetings."

During his two-year battle against cancer, Williams continued to work until September, "when he wasn't able to work any more," said Prouty. "That frustrated him greatly."

"He was a very dependable and reliable

**Sometimes he would get frustrated with us bloody yanks when we butchered the Queen's English, but he had a wonderful sense of humor.**

**— Ed Prouty, heating plant supervisor**

worker for us," said Reed. "He tended a lot of bar events during the year and guests loved him. He was very service oriented and was comfortable talking with guests and meeting their needs at events."

At the celebration of Williams' life on Sunday, many of his friends and co-workers gathered to reminisce about him and share their memory of good time with Alan. "He didn't want any sort of funeral service," said Prouty. "He donated his body to the University of Vermont College of Medicine so that they could research cancer and maybe somehow they could help the next person down the line a little bit. That's the kind of person he was. He always thought of other people besides himself first really."

"He was a private person but cared deeply for all," said Glidden.



By Jason Siegel

PARIS — France is known worldwide for its culinary tradition, so one might expect that the capital would embrace and embody this reputation. Thus, one might ask, what is typical Parisian food?

After a brief survey of the city, I would conclude that nems, tandoori, falafel and Panini are quintessentially Parisian. Now I know you are thinking — "Golly, that food doesn't sound very French." Indeed — but centuries of Paris vaunting itself as the center of France from which all culture radiates outward and a notable immigrant population have contributed to this development.

Paris sees itself as the hotspot of France — home to the biggest and best museums, monuments, politicians, etc. — yet it is not so self-absorbed that it is unwilling to adopt the cuisine of the French regions. Finding a restaurant serving Breton, Provençal or Basque delicacies is not difficult. Due to the enormous influence of Paris, however, any dishes that may have originated here have dissipated into the provinces.

Furthermore, France has a number of social services that most Americans would envy. Subsidized health care, university education — even money for having more kids — are all distributed by the state. The sales tax is huge, and for tourists, it seems like nothing is free in France. It is really just a matter of spending money on different things — paying for customer service hotlines rather than costly medical procedures, \$4 for a sandwich but \$400 a year for college tuition. All this combined with the European Union's open border policy entices immigrants to come to France from member states with less strict immigration laws. In turn most are sucked into Paris' cultural gravitational pull.

Haute cuisine is of course still available. In fact, Paris has plenty of restaurants that cost more money in an evening than an average Togolese citizen makes in a year — \$310. Information from Africa is another thing readily available in Paris but not in the States. The chocolate is slightly more affordable at only \$90 per pound. While these foods are certainly of Parisian origin, they are such specialties that one could say definitively that they are not widespread enough to be considered uniquely Parisian.

Never fear. French cuisine can still be found at the street vendors — bastions of crepes, waffles and other pastry delights. But one can only have so many crepes before starting to consider putting aside his or her dough for a pita.

The combination of commonplace world cuisine and standard French desserts along with the option of a once-a-decade unbelievable meal is fantastic news for gastronomes. Bored with baguettes and butter, they can go out for brunch or borscht. Sick and tired of Camembert? Cook some couscous, kebabs or Caribbean blood sausage. Never tried want food from Chile, Seychelles, Ethiopia, Laos or Hungary? Go for it.

Want food from Paris? Go to New York.





# Feb grads honored in spirit of Fleischman

By Thomas C. Drescher  
NEWS EDITOR

The first annual Jason Fleishman Award was presented to co-recipients Katherine Stamper '04.5 and Devin Greene '04.5 at the Feb Ceremony in Mead Chapel earlier this month. The award was recently established

Joanne Leggett, divisional operations manager for the Dean of Student Affairs Office, noted that this award is especially significant for the Feb Class of 2004.5 because many of the students knew Fleishman "and understood the qualities that made him an extraordinary friend and classmate."

poems and letters of congratulations featuring quotations from nomination statements.

The award was established in part to celebrate Fleishman's amazing life, as the following excerpt from award materials demonstrates — "Jason had an overwhelming love for the outdoors and lived with the most

**I am honored to be one of the first recipients of this award, [which] recognizes an individual not only for academic achievements, but an overall passion for life and a dedication to the well-being of others.**

—Katherine Stamper, '04.5

in honor of Jason Fleishman '03.5, who passed away shortly after last year's Feb Celebration.

According to a campus-wide email sent out by the Jason Fleishman Award Committee, "The award will be given annually to the student that most embodies the following characteristics of Jason's life as a model Feb at Middlebury: Feb and College pride, academic passion and determination, excellence in leadership and involvement, a positive attitude and care for others."

Members of the College community were asked to submit nomination statements to the Dean of Student Affairs by Jan. 19. All Febs graduating in 2005 were eligible. This year's co-recipients, said Leggett, were recognized as exceptional candidates by those who nominated them and the selection committee. Happily, she added, there were no restrictions on the number of recipients. The award includes a very modest fund raising-based monetary gift. Greene and Stamper were also presented with certificates, two inspirational

positive attitude, no matter the obstacles. A neuroscience major with a pre-med track, he was determined to make the best of his education at Middlebury. Above all, Jason identified himself as a Feb, through and through. Jason was committed to making a difference at Middlebury College and in the world and in the lives of the people around him. He always put other people first."

"Jason was both a friend and an academic colleague," said Stamper, one of this year's recipients. "Anyone will testify to his

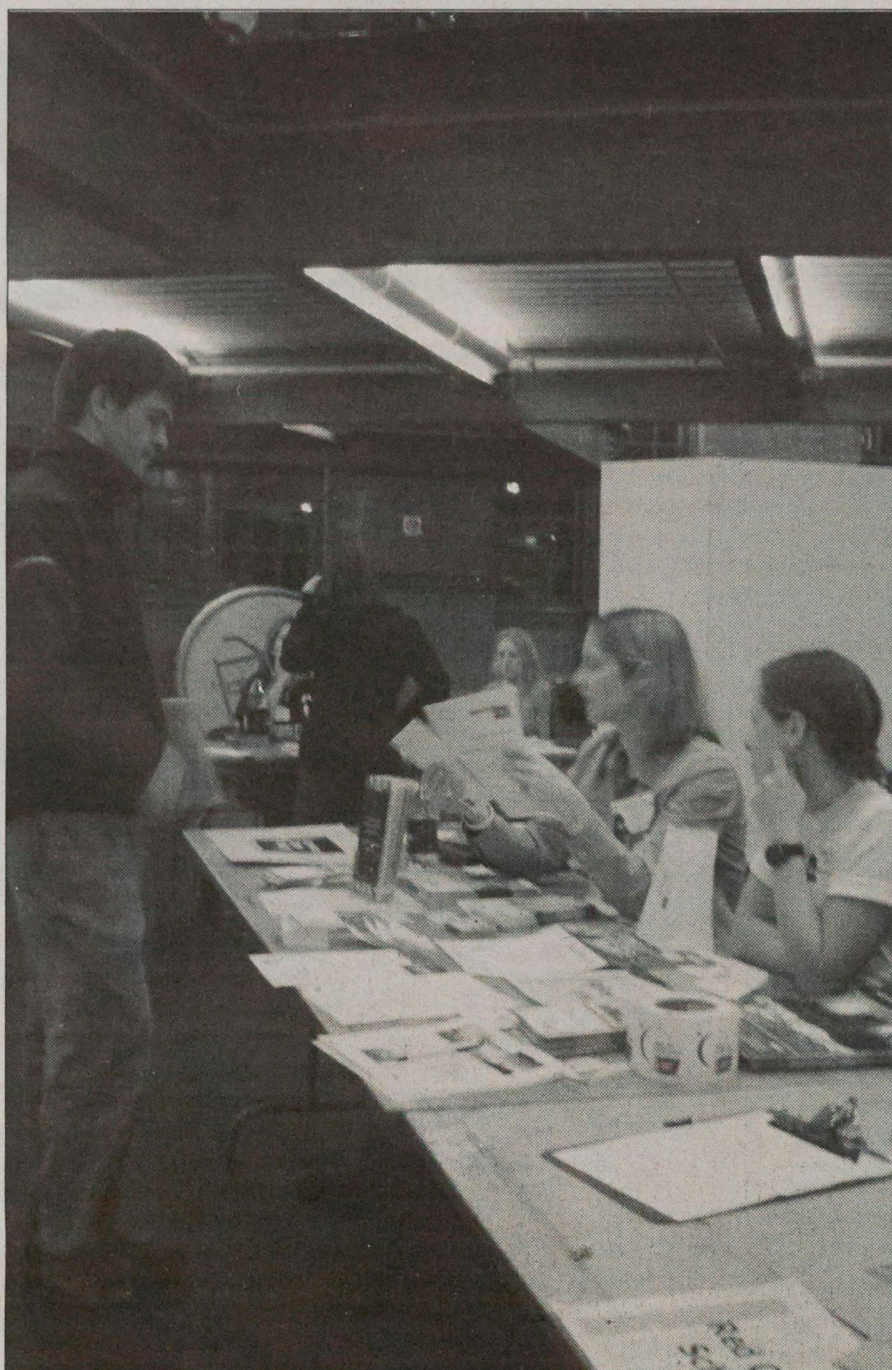


Courtesy

Katherine Stamper '04.5 and Devin Greene '04.5 were nominated by their peers and subsequently selected to receive the first annual Jason Fleishman Award.

contagious humor, unwavering enthusiasm and genuine compassion. I am honored to be one of the first recipients of this award, [which] recognizes an individual not only for academic achievements, but an overall passion for life and a dedication to the well-being of others."

## ENVIRONMENTAL CAMPAIGN



Zhenchen Wu

Students approach information tables set up by the Campaign to Save the Environment at lunch at Proctor on Tuesday. The group is one of several organizations that has visited campus recently as students seek summer employment opportunities. It is a project of the Fund for Public Interest Research, a national, nonprofit organization and has offices across the country. Campaigns, such as protection of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and maintenance of American natural forests are run with other progressive organizations like Greenpeace, Sierra Club and the state Public Interest Research Groups with the goal of making an impact on environmental and public interest issues. The tables were sponsored by the Career Services Office (CSO). In anticipation of the summer employment rush, CSO is also offering workshops on internships, interviewing and time management. Other organizations to visit campus recently and offer employment opportunities include Teach for America and the Peace Corps. Both organizations offer post-grad opportunities.

## Trustees investigate partnership with Monterey Institute

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

pliment its long-time associations with European institutions, along with new programs in translation, interpretation and some more obscure languages.

The Center is comprised of four schools — the Graduate School of International Policy Studies, the Graduate School of Translation and Interpretation, the Fisher Graduate School of International Business and the Graduate School of Language and Educational Linguistics.

After the College began conversations about a potential partnership with Monterey last fall, the Monterey Steering Committee — whose members have visited the site — was formed to organize the investigation. Liebowitz, Vice President for Administration and Treasurer Bob Huth, Board of Trustees

Chair Rick Fritz, Dean of Language Schools and Schools Abroad Michael Geisler, Director of the Rohatyn Center for International Affairs Allison Stanger, Vice President for Academic Affairs Alison Byerly, Dean of Graduate and Special Programs Jim Maddox and former Trustee Frank Sesno make up the Committee.

"Although the Monterey programs are strictly graduate programs, and their acquisition would have no direct impact on our undergraduate curriculum, I believe it is important that faculty who teach in these areas offer an informed and critical evaluation of the potential for us to acquire and build the programs within the Institute's four Schools," Liebowitz wrote. In the future, faculty in the sciences may visit the adjacent Center for Non-Proliferation Studies.

A second proposition was also discussed, this time coming from the local Porter Hospital. The hospital has offered to lease 30 acres of College land in order to build a retirement com-

munity to better serve Helen Porter Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center. Liebowitz pointed out the College's large quantity of land, which includes four miles along Otter Creek.

Additionally, the Trustees evaluated the search processes of two vacant College positions. The Dean of Admissions candidates were narrowed to three finalists while the search for the Associate Vice President of Facilities Management continues after the unanimously elected candidate was unable to take the posi-

**Although the Monterey programs are strictly graduate programs, and their acquisition would have no direct impact on our undergraduate curriculum, I believe it is important that faculty who teach in these areas offer an informed and critical evaluation.**

— President Ronald D. Liebowitz

tion.

The Board also enthusiastically approved further study of the Biomass project — an initiative to bring a carbon bio-generator to campus.

The proposed conversion of the former Starr Library into a center for humanities was confirmed and will move forward with a projected completion date of sometime in 2007.

The question of whether Febs at the College are disadvantaged academically was also raised. For example, courses in beginning foreign languages are only offered in the fall term. The Board is also concerned about how the Feb program is presented to prospective students. Liebowitz said "serious thought" was going into making the traditional February ski-down celebration into a real graduation.

President Liebowitz and Jim Keyes of the Board of Trustees were on hand at Sunday nights' Student Government Association meeting to answer student questions.



# Students protest Marine presence on campus

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

was allowed to set up an information table outside dining halls and conduct interviews on campus. Four or five students signed up for interviews, according to Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson.

On Wednesday, Feb. 9, a group of students participated in a silent protest outside Proctor to protest the College's stance on allowing recruiters on campus without signing the nondiscrimination policy. Organizer J.S. Woodward '06 was on hand with a petition that received 139 signatures and was submitted to President Ronald D. Liebowitz and to the College Board of Trustees.

Friday morning, Feb. 11, Olinick sent a motion on the nondiscrimination agreement to all faculty members and a copy of "Sense of the Faculty Resolution."

The motion explains the College rationale in allowing on-campus recruiting by employers who discriminate in terms of the Solomon Amendment enacted by Congress in 1996. The amendment allows the Secretary of Defense to deny federal funding to institutions of higher learning if they prohibit or prevent ROTC or military recruitment on campus.

In the last few months, however, several federal courts have ruled that the Solomon Amendment violates the first amendment's protection of free speech. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in *Fair et al. v Rumsfeld* and the federal district court in Connecticut in *Burt et al v Rumsfeld* are the most prominent recent examples.

While thrilled at the overwhelming support of the faculty for the resolution, Woodward expressed surprise in light of the potential cuts in government funding to the College as defined in the Solomon amendment, especially in the science departments that specifically receive such funding.

In his motion, Olinick defended the resolution with the claim, "Many faculty, students and staff members believe that the finding that the Solomon Amendment is unconstitutional provides us with the opportunity to change our policy to one which is more consistent with our position on discrimination."

Because the College Handbook contains a nondiscrimination statement prohibiting discrimination on any basis — specifically



Courtesy

Students participate in a silent protest on Proctor Terrace against the College's policy on recruitment on Wednesday, Feb. 9, the same day Captain David Doucette of the U.S. Marine Corps set up an information table inside the dining hall to recruit interested students. The bandannas represent the silence homosexuals in the military must maintain under the "Don't ask, Don't tell policy."

citing sexual orientation — in employment, admission or access to educational or extracurricular programs, activities or facilities, supporters of the resolution maintained that permitting employers that discriminate to use the College's facilities is contradictory.

Olinick also noted that the policy allowing the open meeting when potential recruiters were unable to sign a nondiscrimination agreement was developed by the administration was not approved by the faculty and does not appear in the College Handbook. Therefore the motion represents a recommendation to the administration and not a motion to change Handbook language.

Charles A. Dana Professor of Political

Science Murray Dry is a vocal opponent of the resolution. "The current policy strikes the proper balance between our emphasizing non-discrimination on the one hand and allowing the Military to recruit on campus on the other hand," he said. Dry thinks the current policy allowing for an open meeting with discussion satisfies College policy while allowing students to learn about opportunities in the military.

Some institutions, such as Harvard and Yale, have recently challenged the Solomon Amendment in court. A federal judge ruled in favor of Yale Law School's ban on military recruiting last week.

Dry summarized the position of such

institutions, "The Solomon Amendment violates the schools' first amendment rights by confusing their position on non-discrimination."

"I think that is mistaken," explained Dry. "No one will be confused by Harvard's or Yale's, or Middlebury's allowing military recruiting and then requiring a special public session because of the military's treatment of homosexual. To disallow the recruiting says that we refuse to accord any legitimacy to the military as long as it carries out a policy on homosexuals with which we disagree. I think that is wrong and it also puts us at risk for loss of federal funds."

## The Middlebury Campus

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FOR MORE INFORMATION.



## COLLEGE SHORTS

BY ANDREA GISSING AND KATIE FLAGG

### Semester at Sea rocked by tidal forces

One of the ships belonging to the popular study abroad program Semester at Sea was rocked by rough waters on Jan. 27, causing minor injuries and delays for about 700 passengers.

Around 6 a.m., following a loud crashing noise that occurred at 1:30 a.m., students were instructed to put on life jackets and report to the hallways. The students sat for six hours before being told that the earlier noise had been caused by a wave, estimated to be 50 to 70 feet high, crashing into the ship. It shattered the window in the control tower, damaged the control system and caused engine damage.

Michael Hergert, a business professor and a spring 2005 Semester at Sea faculty member said that the ship had been rolling badly, but most of the damage had been cosmetic. A lot of the students' personal effects had been damaged, in the library most books had been thrown from their shelves.

The ship was without power for 40 minutes that morning as it was hit by more 50-foot waves. Only one navigation system was working after the storm.

The semester will continue, though with a revised schedule, as repairs are made to the ship. Students will fly to Shanghai and Hong Kong and will re-join the ship in Vietnam to continue the voyage.

— Source: U-Wire.com

### Recyclemania fever abounds on College campuses

Over 40 colleges and universities across the country have signed up for this year's Recyclemania competition, an intercollegiate extravaganza that runs from Jan. 30 to April 9. While the competition's Web site claims that the main goal of the event is to "increase student awareness of campus recycling," Recyclemania aims to excite students by playing to their sense of school pride and competition.

The intercollegiate competition was founded in 2001 — Ohio University and Miami University (Ohio) competed to see who could win in a recycling competition. While Miami University emerged as the victor, the competition sparked nationwide interest. Last year 17 institutions participated in the event, and that number has more than doubled for this year's events.

Participants in the competition set individual goals for achievement, though room for competition with other organizations certainly exists. As of Feb. 5, the University of Oregon led the way in the per capita competition at 7.14 pounds of recyclables per student while the University of California at San Marco held first place in the Recycling Rate competition.

"We found that competition and rivalry speaks to people a lot more strongly than saving the planet and doing the right thing," said Edward Newman, the refuse and recycling manager at Ohio University and co-founder of Recyclemania.

—Source: U-Wire.com

## Leibowitz revamps dorm security

### Administration supports 'round-the-clock locking

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

More recent discussions of campus security began last fall, according to Dean of the College Tim Spears. "There was quite a lot of discussion within the President's staff over the course of the fall," said Spears, "not simply in conjunction with the intrusions on campus but also in light of long term considerations for the College."

Following consultations with the College attorney and insurers — and after examining security systems at peer colleges in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) — the decision was made to update the access card system to secure residence halls 24 hours a day.

In the days following Leibowitz's announcement, students have already expressed dissatisfaction with the new policy.

"There just doesn't seem to be any need for it. Maybe taking action in advance is a good thing, and I respect that, but it just feels like it's distrustful of the local community and Middlebury students," said Adam Morgan '08.5.

According to Kristin Nielson '07, "There's not enough of a safety threat to warrant such precautions."

While administrators did acknowledge popular student opinions in assessing security protocol, these opinions did not play a determining role in the decision-making process.

"In making this decision we were very conscious of the fact that Middlebury has a unique atmosphere and many students were drawn to the College because of this atmosphere of safeness and its welcoming qualities," said Spears. "We also understood that in coming to this decision to move to a 24/7 security schedule that a number of students would be upset by it. However, I think that this is one of these decisions where at a certain point in the discussion it became clear

access cards in hand, students have found that accessing locked residence halls is generally straightforward.

Furthermore, Leibowitz emphasized the success of similar locking schedules at other small New England liberal arts colleges. "At most of our peer institutions," he wrote, "including those in equally rural areas, residence halls are locked to non-residents full-time."

Leibowitz has asked Dean of the College Tim Spears to appoint a task force to develop

the image of a culture of fear, it's the term 'lockdown.' Given the access card system we have, which — if you carry your card — really is a fairly convenient system, I don't think that's appropriate."

Despite unenthusiastic responses from students, Spears emphasized the importance of the change. "I think there's a kind of sense among members of the community that to talk about liability issues and to imagine worst-case scenarios is not a realistic way of

**We understood that in coming to this decision to move to a 24/7 security schedule that a number of students would be upset by it. However, I think that this is one of these decisions where at a certain point in the discussion it became clear that we really didn't have any choice.**

—Tim Spears, dean of the College

a plan for implementing the new protocol. According to Spears, this task force will examine methods of implementing the new system, including providing access cards for faculty and staff on campus. "We need to make sure that everyone on campus has an access card," said Spears.

The task force will also examine security measures in residence halls that serve as "mixed-use buildings." Buildings like Forest Hall and Gifford Hall include classrooms, offices and lounges that are scheduled for use by multiple groups and individuals on campus. Regarding buildings that combine unique mixes of residential and public spaces, the task force will be responsible for devising protocol

approaching these kinds of problems," said Spears. "But the fact is that ultimately the standards we have to follow in developing our security systems are ones that will be measured by a larger community than simply the people on campus. That's a tough reality but I think it's one that we have to acknowledge."

Leibowitz is similarly dedicated to the protocol change. "Given the relative convenience of the access card system and its successful adoption on campus," he wrote, "I am persuaded that it is now in our best interest to secure our residence halls 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

Leibowitz made an appearance at Tuesday's Community Council meeting in Old Chapel to discuss his recent decision and field questions from members. Some students had immediately responded to his campus-wide e-mail, Leibowitz said, with the argument that locking residence halls fails to ameliorate the problem, and actually adds to it by making the campus "feel" unsafe. Leibowitz acknowledged these claims but emphasized the stark reality of the situation in terms of both safety and liability.

Leibowitz asserted that "reasonable" measures must be taken to ensure security and avoid liability issues for the College.

It was noted that for years the Language Schools have made full use of the College's access system.

Spears said the new access policy should be in full affect either the week before or after spring break, noting that there would most likely be a brief test period to work out any problems with the system changes. Spears also requisitioned one student for the committee over which he will preside — Stephanie Kane '07 — and asked SGA President Andrew Jacoby '05 to recruit another from the ranks of the SGA.

Leibowitz suggested the possibility of hosting an open forum to answer questions from students, faculty and staff outside the various representative bodies, and Council members seemed receptive to the idea.

Additional reporting by Thomas C. Drescher.

**Maybe taking action in advance is a good thing, and I respect that, but it just feels like [the locking schedule is] distrustful of the local community and Middlebury students.**

—Adam Morgan '08.5

that we really didn't have any choice."

Spears emphasized that individual student concerns are secondary to institutional responsibility and liability.

"For me, he said, "and now I'm speaking personally, when a parent or even a student calls and expresses concern about her security and asks, 'Is the College doing everything it can to guarantee my safety or my daughter's safety?' — given our current locking schedule, it's hard to say yes."

Leibowitz's e-mail was largely optimistic about the changes, expressing a belief that many student concerns are obsolete in the face of the successful adoption of the Access card system. Past objections to a 24-houring locking schedule, for instance, were rooted in worries that the system would limit movement across campus. But, as Leibowitz wrote, the administration has "received a great deal of feedback during the past two years that have dispelled those original concerns." With

"so that people can get into the buildings who need to."

In addition to these responsibilities, the committee will decide when to implement the new security schedule. "We certainly won't want to move to it until we're absolutely sure that the schedule that has been devised makes sense and that everyone is aware of the schedule and that it works," said Spears. "There's no reason to think that it wouldn't work, but you never know. There could be glitches that arise and we want to take a couple of test runs."

According to Sunday's memo, the administration hopes to implement the new schedule between the sixth and eighth week of the spring semester.

Spears stressed that the new locking schedule is rooted in a desire to promote safety, not generate anxiety. "Whenever talking about this issue we try to avoid the word 'lockdown' which was used several years ago," said Spears. "If any term inspires or generates

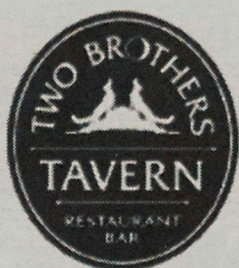
## public safety log

APRIL 8, 2004 TO APRIL 11, 2004

| DATE    | TIME       | INCIDENT       | CATEGORY     | LOCATION   | DISPOSITION              |
|---------|------------|----------------|--------------|------------|--------------------------|
| 4/8/04  | 12:00 p.m. | Theft          | Bicycle      | Sunderland | Referred to MPD          |
| 4/9/04  | 11:14 p.m. | Drug Violation | Marijuana    | Starr      | Referred to Commons Dean |
| 4/11/04 | 1:08 a.m.  | Property       | Parking Sign | Voter      | Open                     |
| 4/11/04 | 5:20 p.m.  | Vandalism      | Vehicle      | E Lot      | No Suspects              |



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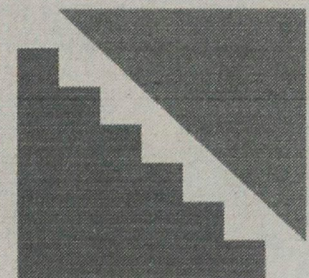
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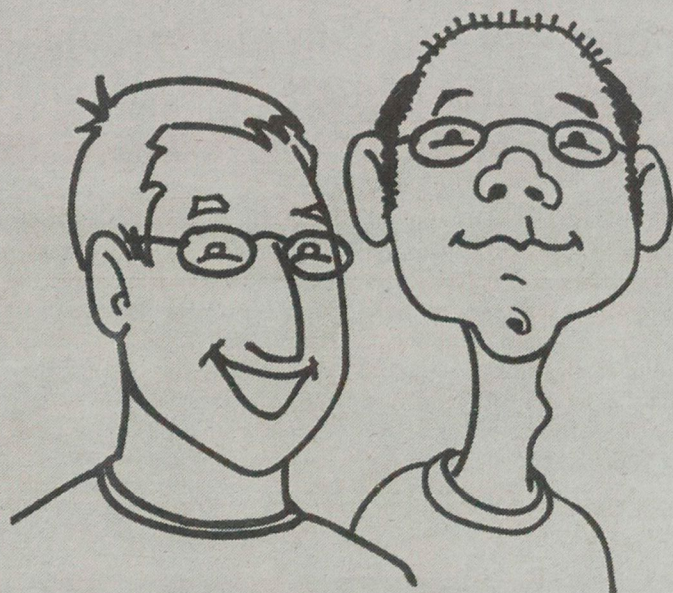
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# localnews

**6**  
**PORTER'S PLANS**  
EXPANSION  
PROPOSAL AWAITS  
DECISION

**7**  
**TAPPING THE SAP**  
VERMONT MAPLE  
SYRUP PRODUCTION  
SEES A GOOD SEASON

## Porter Hospital plans for expansion

### \$16.4 million "North Project" to begin soon

By Polly Johnson  
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

Porter Medical Center made a proposal last week that would expand the hospital in a plan deemed the "North Project." The renovation would add 26,179 square feet to the surgical and maternity wings of the hospital.

Officials from the hospital presented their case to the Public Oversight Commission (POC) last week, which will convene at another meeting on March 9 to vote. If it passes through the POC members, the commissioner of the Department of Banking, Insurance, Securities and Health Care Administration will have until May 9 to decide if he will grant Porter the Certificate of Need (CON) application. The project would cost approximately \$16.4 million and is scheduled to take about 16 months to complete.

Porter Medical Center Vice President for Public Relations Ron Hallman explained, "The project has been in the planning stages since the late 1990s — including a \$4 million capital campaign in 2001-2002. We submitted our CON application in May 2004 and expect to have a ruling from the State by May of this year."

The CON application summarizes the proposed plan and gives a lengthy description of all the major and minor details of the project. The areas of the hospital most in need of renovation are the operating rooms and the maternity wing. According to the CON, "The current operation room environment was constructed in 1975 to support two surgeons and one obstetrician/gynecologist. Today, there are 20 surgeons with operating privileges who perform procedures at Porter. The suite consists of two operation rooms that lack adequate electrical outlets, have insufficient power supplies for the equipment and have a roof that has had a history of leaking." The description goes on to delineate the inadequacies of the space and the areas most in need of improvement.

The maternity wing, especially,



Ari Joseph

Citing insufficient space and lack of privacy, Porter Medical Center officials have proposed a renovation.

is lacking in updated resources, space and privacy. The current birthing center at Porter consists of two labor rooms, one delivery room, one nursery, two postpartum rooms and two semi-private post-

no windows, contribute to a patient care environment that fails to meet current expectations or health care architectural standards for patient care."

Hallman, commenting on the

**"The current operation room environment was constructed in 1975 to support two surgeons and one obstetrician/gynecologist."**

**—Porter Medical Center's Application**

partum rooms. The CON application described the lack of space and the dissatisfaction of patients who are frustrated with constantly having to relocate within the hospital. According to the text, this "location is neither quiet nor private for the mother. The small room sizes, together with the fact that there are

maternity wing proposal, explained, "Our maternity department was designed before 'family-centered birth experience' was the standard for maternity care and patient expectations — we do not have a birthing center for area women to choose from, and they deserve to have that option nearby."

Not only do the maternity wings and surgical rooms need a renovation, but the proposal also includes plans to relocate the pharmacy in order to put it in closer proximity to the operating rooms, birthing center and medical inpatient unit. Currently, the pharmacy is located in the lobby, making private patient consultations difficult.

Hallman stressed the importance of the project by describing the limited facilities that currently make up Porter. "Yes," he said, "we are in need of this project based on the fact that we are modernizing 30-year-old facilities that, in many cases, do not conform to current architectural or clinical standards for providing patient care in the most optimum conditions."

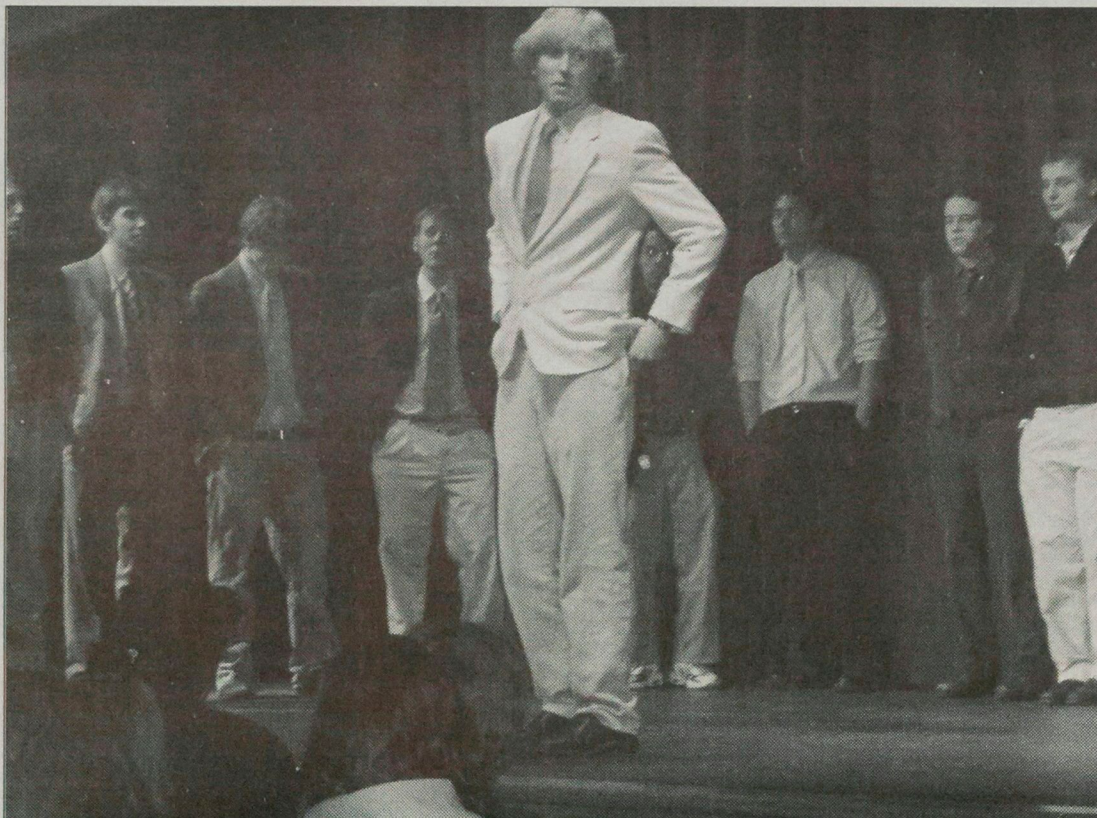
The North Project has received much support from the surrounding community. Many citizens showed up at the Middlebury Inn last week, where Porter Hospital officials delivered a PowerPoint presentation to the POC, highlighting the current lack of space at the hospital. Steve Terry, board chairman of Porter Hospital, noted at the presentation that an improved hospital "is a very important part of the quality of life for people who live in this area."

Hallman stated that the hospital has "had overwhelming community support — both financially and through letters and testimony in support of our project. Our patient satisfaction surveys indicate that our patients appreciate the great care they receive from our doctors and nurses, but they also understand the need for improved facilities."

The \$16.4 million project will be funded through three sources — \$5 million from donations, \$1,063,289 from other sources and \$10.4 million that will be borrowed.

By May 9, officials at Porter Hospital will be informed of the final decision. Hallman hopes "the POC will recommend approval of our CON to the Commissioner of Banking, Insurance, Securities and Health Care Administration — and that he will grant our CON by early May."

### D8 STARTS V-DAY EARLY



Courtesy

Kicking off the Valentine's Day celebration early, a capella group Dissipated 8, along with the Middlebury Union High School's female a capella group, performed in the MUHS auditorium last Saturday night.



# Maple syrup production in full force this season

By Sarah Shaikh  
STAFF WRITER

What do you get when you tap a tree and boil the sap? If you guessed maple syrup, then you are one step ahead of the game.

In Vermont, maple syrup is more than just a breakfast condiment — it is a thriving industry with important historical ties to Vermonters. For centuries, Vermonters have been obtaining syrup from maple trees. The industry has flourished throughout the state and in other parts of New England.

We all know how to eat maple syrup, but have you ever wondered how to make it? The key step in maple syrup production is the “tapping of the Tree.” As maple trees grow, the sap that freezes in the winter begins to thaw and eventually starts to flow up from the roots and settle in the trunks and branches of the trees. This sap is collected using a very specific process.

Traditionally, the “tapping” process included burning a hole into the trunk of the tree using a metal handheld drill and metal tap that functioned as a faucet, which was entered into the hole. Buckets were then hung from each tap and collected and emptied by hand into a tank, which waited on a horse drawn sled. However, now with the competition and demand within the maple syrup market, this process has changed in order to be more cost effective and efficient.

“We now use portable electric drills and plastic spouts and tubing which allows us to connect miles of trees together and is both cheaper and more efficient,” said Betsy Luce of Sugarbush Farms, a distributor of maple syrup in Woodstock, Vt., about the changes in the process. “Because our maple tree groves are not all in one area we use 300-gallon storage containers to collect the sap which is then brought down to our sugar house.”

Once the sap is collected, it needs to be made into syrup. Sap is

a natural sweetener that has a sugar content of 2-2.75 percent. Because sap is highly perishable, it has to be boiled very soon after being collected. Sugarbush Farm taps approximately 6,000 trees and uses about 40 quarts of sap for every one-quart of syrup which is then taken to the Sugarbush sugar house where it is boiled down to syrup.

In contrast, Dakin Farm, located just north up Rt. 7 from Middlebury, has shifted to an increasingly technological approach to syrup production. Dakin, the number one retail seller of maple syrup in Vermont, yielded about 250 gallons of syrup last year, a number which they now hope to increase to 625 gallons.

April Hill, a retail representative at Dakin Farm, said, “With the greater number of taps we have purchased, this increase in syrup production is more plausible.”

Though the general process of maple syrup production is very similar to the way Sugarbush Farm collects their syrup, Dakin has added new technology in an effort to cut the boiling process almost in half. They now use reverse osmosis to remove water from the sap, which in turn changes the sugar content of the sap from two percent to about seven percent. The aid of reverse osmosis then allows them to increase production from two gallons of syrup per hour to 10 gallons of syrup per hour.

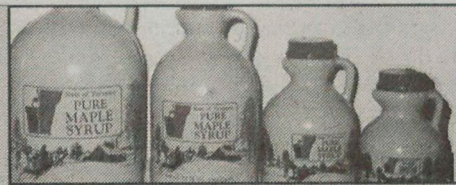
Beginning this week, both Sugarbush and Dakin will begin tapping the maple trees. So if you are interested in sugaring or if you just want to try samples of freshly boiled syrup, gather up some friends and drive down Rt. 7 to check out the maple syrup production in person. Dakin Farm and other farms in the area have open maple syrup canneries for visitors. If you have been eating Aunt Jemima for your whole life, put down the Butter Lite and try the real stuff. You might as well — you’re in Vermont now!



Courtesy

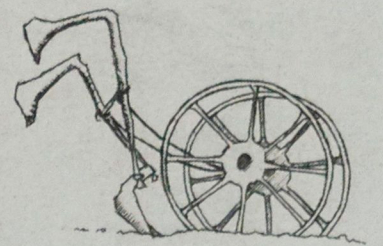
With maple tapping season just around the corner, Vermont's big syrup makers are using technology to replace old tapping methods.

## Maple Syrup by the Numbers:



40: Number of calories per one tablespoon of maple syrup.

57,248: Number of ounces that would fill the largest syrup bottle in the world, which is located at Dakin Farms.



## Rural Banter

BY ERICA GOODMAN

As those who lust for labels and pricy garments may know, last week New York City hosted its annual fall preview fashion week. Designers from around the globe exhibited their latest and greatest material masterpieces — Ralph Lauren, Donna Karen, Vera Wang, John Deere. OK, so maybe the last is a stretch. The agricultural machinery giant has yet to make an appearance on the catwalk. Yet I am convinced that there is a conspiracy brewing.

The names filling the aisle in the local farm apparel store may someday be written in lights above the runways of Manhattan. Laugh not. Area 51 has got nothing on this one.

The first wave of the sinister plot came with the infiltration of clothing generally reserved for the rugged rural worker into the youth generation. *Dickies* were perfect for the rebel skateboarder, the durable material hardy enough to survive numerous bails onto the pavement.

The heavy-duty denim Carhartt work jean, appreciated by many a farmer milking his cows on a chilly Vermont night, was easily adopted by the wannabe woodsman. The company's oversized hoodies traveled beyond the mean streets of small-town America to keep the inner-city hip-hop culture cozy.

Phase two took a step beyond fashion integration. The indigenous rural fashions gave rise to suburbanized interpretations. The John Deere (who, by the way, spent his young life in our very own Middlebury, Vt.) logo was strategically placed at the center of the T-shirt and trucker hat phenomenon. One would be not hard pressed to find the emerald green and gold emblem plastered in the window of any “hip” clothing store or branding the front of a cute, pink hat adorning the head of a Middlebury student.

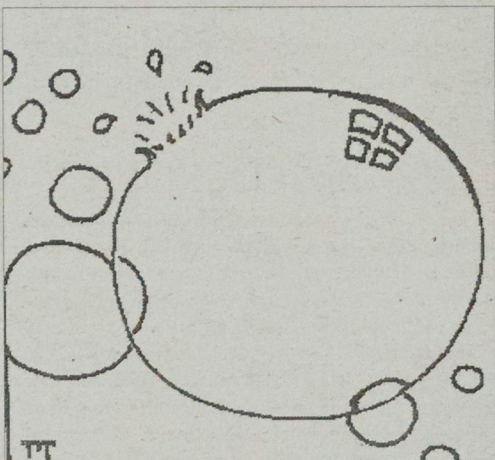
Steel-toed boots, most practical for working with heavy machinery, overtook the urban style market. Could *Lugz* really be a subversive satellite of a more powerful rural manufacturer? Who knows, but I do wonder if the title for Russell Simmons's clothing line, *Phat Farm*, is merely a coincidence. I think not.

Attempts to bring fashion to the farm have been less successful. An *Armani* suit costs nearly as much as 10,000 tons of hay, but is highly impractical for farm endeavors.

Ever try driving a tractor in stiletto heels? And when a farmer wakes up at 3 a.m. to milk his cows, the last thing on his mind is whether or not his Ralph Lauren Polo is properly popped.

For the fashion snobs out there, beware. The wave of farm trends is coming to a runway near you.

## BEYOND THE



## BUBBLE

BY CLAIRE NIELSON AND LISIE MEHLMAN

A heartbreaking thing has happened to our favorite member of the Beyond the Bubble clan. The Roo — the white, charming, somewhat dilapidated Subaru that has lovingly been there when we needed it for those long car rides to discuss philosophical questions, like what it really means when he doesn't call, and also to take us to Starbucks when we just needed that caramel apple cider, died a tragic death over Feb break. After Claire recovered from the initial terror of her accident, she found herself stranded alone on the rural roads bridging Vermont and Massachusetts. Strange characters were met over the course of her journey back home, reminiscent of the journey made by Chance, Sassy and Shadow in “Homeward Bound.” There was the friendly lady in the midst of making cookies when Claire knocked on the door of her house in tears. She didn't want to leave when the state trooper arrived — she was hoping to get a

taste of Betty's cookies. The brilliant state trooper asked Claire if she could just move her car off the side of the road, at which point she broke down in tears. Apparently young state troopers, no matter how sexy, don't really know how to deal with the tears. Nor do they have personalities. Alas, to make a long story short, Claire and Lisie have been living without the Roo for the past few weeks while it is getting fixed up at Junction Subee Center. We have been feeling a profound void in our lives.

The fact that we didn't have valentines didn't really help the whole void situation. But at least Lisie didn't break out in hives this Valentine's Day, a notable improvement from last year. Celebrating the big V-Day properly without the Roo proved challenging, and limited our options for how to create clever Valentines for the loved ones (an inordinate, unfortunate number of female friends) in our lives. We walked into town to buy

roses. The saleswoman refused to sell them to us. Apparently even florists make you feel bad for being single. Sheer malarkey. Lisie bought Strawberry Shortcake collated Valentines at Ben Franklin while Claire stocked up on art supplies to make them. Nonetheless, Valentine's Day passed uneventfully and we never even drank the “Love Potion” our friends had bought to celebrate. Instead, teddy bear her parents sent her. He is clad only in cowboy boots, a cowboy hat and heart covered boxers. Claire isn't sure which is more disconcerting — his outfit or the fact that Markandbar signed their card “Love your hunka hunkas, Mom and Dad.”

Without the Roo, we just didn't feel much like celebrating. But there's always something to be thankful for, even if we don't have boyfriends, or prospective boyfriends or even Proctor crushes. Lisie didn't have hives, and who could ask for more?



# Opinions

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## Editorial

### Taking a stand

The Middlebury College faculty should be commended for taking a stand on the controversial issue of whether or not to allow groups that openly discriminate to recruit on campus, in spite of the potential cut in funding. In their resounding 62-28-4 vote to prevent groups that do not sign the College's nondiscrimination agreement from recruiting on campus, the faculty has demonstrated that in their eyes, moral considerations outweigh financial ones and that they are prepared to sacrifice for their ideals.

The College has made leaps and bounds in recent years to promote diversity. The conversion of Carr Hall into the PALANA center and the organization of "Deliberative Dialogues" stand out as prominent examples, along with the increased strength of the GLBTQ community on campus and the open response to address issues pertaining to race, gender and sexual orientation. The faculty's ability to openly take a stand on such topics just reaffirms what any student who has ever worked closely with a Middlebury faculty member knows — they truly can be considered role models who lead by example.

### Hard times for pocketbooks...

From the outset, it must be made clear that the six percent rise in prices on textbooks sold at the College Store was not of the College's design — it was a direct result of a new state tax statute.

Unfortunately, despite the fact that the College has no choice to comply with the tax, this increase still means that the cost of a Middlebury education continues to rise significantly in many areas, and is becoming more of a stretch for many potential Panthers.

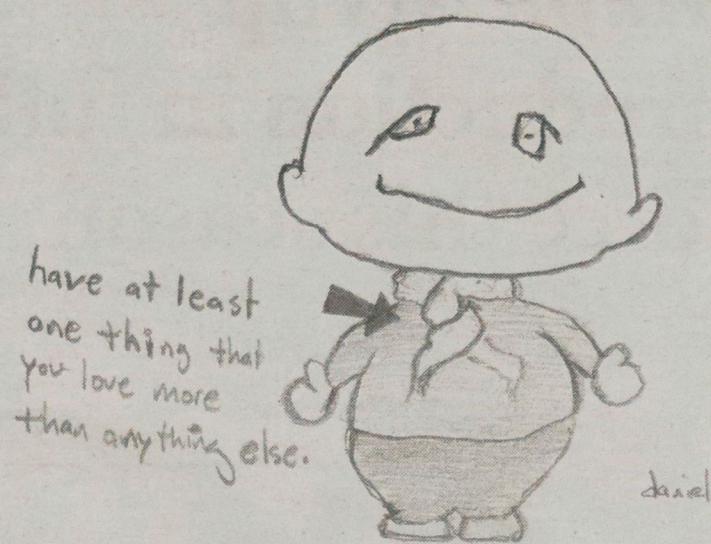
The Comprehensive Fee Committee presented a proposal to the Board of Trustees recommending a five percent increase in the comprehensive fee for the next school year. If this proposal is accepted, it means that one year at Middlebury College will cost \$42,420. Now, the Board has yet to come to a decision as to what the final figure will be, but for example's sake, let's say this is the figure for next year. To the comprehensive fee of \$42,420, add the cost of one semester's books, say \$250. If a student has to buy \$250 worth of textbooks both semesters — ignoring Winter Term for the purposes of this example — one year at Middlebury will cost that student \$42,950 including the new book tax. Almost \$3,000 more than what one year at Middlebury costs now. Also, don't forget the cost of many P.E. classes, any dorm damage fines and the cost of attending concerts and shows offered by various College departments. No doubt there are additional costs beyond those illustrated here.

Now, as the students polled in the survey put out by the Comprehensive Fee committee have shown in their responses, there are many areas — including lowering the student-to-faculty ratio — that would greatly justify the need for an increase in the comprehensive fee. However, the important question is: if the fee were to increase by any amount, would the wages, stipends and financial aid packages that enable students to pay that fee increase proportionally as well?

One big concern that arose with the cessation of the credit system on the old Middcards was that students could no longer charge their books before their first work-study paychecks came in the mail. Now, with a sales tax on these books, the pinch is even more pronounced. Will student wages increase to match?

Middlebury College already stands among the most expensive schools in the nation, most definitely among our peer institutions. The cost of the school, regardless of its academic prowess, greatly influences people's decisions to matriculate. President Liebowitz has stated that it is his goal to develop the "human capital" of this College. Board of Trustees: please do not make the cost of a Middlebury education a limiting factor in attracting this capital. If the comprehensive fee must increase, make sure the ability of a student to financially sustain his or her Middlebury education increases as well.

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## Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

I just wanted to thank you for *The Campus's* substantial attention to and comprehensive coverage of the issue of military recruitment on campus. As we work to change the College's policy regarding discriminatory employers it is enormously helpful to have the campus media so ready to bring the issue to the public's attention.

Sincerely,  
Craig Johnson '05  
Mount Desert, Maine

kind of message would that send about our community?

The academic world suffers its reputation as an "Ivory Tower" — a platform from which the educated elite look down upon the ignorant masses — precisely because of the attitudes of people like Mr. Woodward.

Sincerely,  
Dan Morosani '05  
New York, N.Y.

To the Editor:

I write this letter as a response to J.S. Woodward's opinions piece in last week's issue of *The Middlebury Campus*. According to the policies of your newspaper, reactions to opinions must be sent in as letters to the editor.

Thus, I am sending the following, which was a part of my original opinions submission, as a letter.

Mr. Woodward believes that the College's "politically correct acceptance of foreign ideas" — namely, its allowing the military to openly recruit Middlebury students — places the school in an "Ivory Tower" in which he "[refuses] to stand."

But I have to ask: what if the College decided to do as Mr. Woodward wishes it would, and prevented the military from recruiting on campus? If the College were to reject the military because its policies — which were drafted and ratified by elected representatives of the American people — don't conform to the enlightened ideas of our all-knowing academic minds, what

To the Editor:

For you it may be the issue of proximity, or the fact that Ross and Atwater hardly offer vegetarian alternatives of the same calibre as Proctor. Maybe you just don't like showing up "on stage" in the modern marvels wearing sweatpants and the remnants of last night's make-up.

Whatever it is that riles you up about No Proctor on the Weekends, I can probably sympathize. As possibly Middlebury's biggest Proctor slut, I wake-up with a dark cloud over my head realizing that there will be no waffles, no self-made Proctor cooking wonders, no friendly Dr. Proctor smiles or familiar laid back Proctor frequenters. Instead, I know I have a loud, jam-packed, paninied-breakfast-burrito-free brunch awaiting me so, so far away from the warmth of my Stewart bed...

The difficult question: do I trek across campus and position myself awkwardly on the mal-constructed highchairs in Atwater, or do I settle for stares and glares on the Ross Runway? The simple answer: BRING PROCTOR BACK ON THE WEEKENDS!

Sincerely,  
Astri von Arbin Ahlander '07  
Djursholm, Sweden

## OPINIONS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.



# Liebowitz lockdown lacks logic

I was deeply troubled and disappointed by the announcement of a 24-hour lockdown. I would like to express my disapproval in the strongest terms possible. Acceptance of changes like these is not based on agreement by students, but rather on the short memory and high turnover rate of the student body. There are many students here today who never knew this school before the doors were locked at night, before every coming and going was recorded in a computer database, or before there was a "crime problem." In a few short years, there will be no one who remembers that Middlebury ever had open doors during the day. At that point, the debate will be over. But for now, there are those who object to the consistent, incremental change in the level of surveillance and "safety measures." What's next? Access restricted to buildings in our own Commons?

First of all, the problem described in the justification for these changes is not really a problem. Drunk kids entering the wrong unlocked room, and leaving immediately when confronted, hardly constitutes a crisis situation worthy of immediate action.

Second, the proposed solution is not really a solution. We must be honest with ourselves: these intruders are not malicious outsiders bent on destroying our idyllic world. They come from within our own ranks, and as such, they have access cards. Lock the outside doors all you want: every student has the power to unlock those doors and become a potential intruder. Unless we as a community decide that the residents of the Town of Middlebury constitute a dangerous threat to our safety, it seems silly to focus our crime prevention efforts on outsiders while allowing every student access to every dorm. Restricting students' access to other dorms will not be well received. As the editorial in last week's

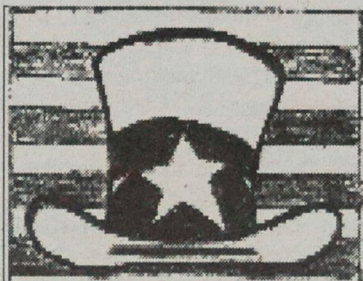
issue of *The Campus* pointed out, the solution really involves students' locking their own doors at night. The fact that every incidence of intrusion has occurred at night is further evidence that this policy will solve nothing: the outside doors were already locked when these people gained access to the buildings. No one is complaining about strangers coming into their rooms or buildings during the day.

Third and most important, this is the most recent in a string of efforts that is promoting a culture of fear and mistrust on this campus. I consider myself lucky not to attend one of "our peer institutions", and their security policies matter to me as much as their residential life policies or *US News and World Report* ranking — not at all. Middlebury is unique in many ways, and our strong focus on the Honor Code is something that distinguishes us. In the classroom, during exams, and when handing in assignments, we commit ourselves to a culture of trust and respect. I can't tell you how much this improves my relations with professors — instead of a potentially deviant student to be watched carefully, I am a responsible adult whose judgment matters. I would like to think that this trust and respect extends to other aspects of campus life, but several recent developments have demonstrated to me that it does not. Beginning with the lockdown of three years ago and the access card system that followed, I have seen that culture erode.

More recently, the announcements of dish monitors, security cameras and locked doors have convinced me that this culture of safety is dying. It will be replaced by nervous looks over the shoulder, panicked calls to Public Safety over a bump in the night, and accusations of theft if someone picks up the wrong backpack. If the College really wants to build community, all the dining halls or senior housing in the world won't replace a genuine bond of trust and respect among all students, faculty, staff and administrators.

ALEX FULLER '05

AN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES MAJOR  
FROM SHAKER HEIGHTS, OHIO



**Sam Says**  
A Political Commentary  
By Sam Wilson

If you read this column, then you have probably figured out by now that I think the President's designs on Social Security are pretty bogus. I think so, not just because of the logistical matters (there is no need for a massive overhaul, and even if there was, personal accounts would not solve the problem), but for a more fundamental reason. Social Security's *raison d'être* is right there in its name: *security*. While the program is not intended to entirely

## Social Security revisited

support people throughout retirement, at times it must. It is the all-else-failed, last defense security that no matter what, as an elderly person in this country you will have some means of supporting yourself. Ideally, people will save for retirement throughout their lives, invest wisely, and have some sort of non-Social Security pension. If that goes well, then Social Security checks are just a supplement to what is there — the program makes life a little easier.

Unfortunately, life is rarely ideal. People do lose everything. If through bad luck, falling victim to corporate malfeasance such as Enron or the investment firm debacles of 2002, poor judgment, or just plain stupidity, you reach retirement age with no assets, Social Security exists to make sure you will have something. For seven million elderly

people today Social Security is the entirety of their means. According to a 2000 report by the Social Security Agency 48 percent of elderly beneficiaries would be below the poverty line if not for the program. On a side note, the White House dismissed these findings, and the Social Security Agency no longer analyzes this figure. While the White House claims that it is trying to "save" the program, the personal accounts the President is pushing by definition undermine this security. Investment is a good thing, and should be encouraged. However, people have their entire lives to invest, in whichever way they choose. Social Security is the safety net in case those investments collapse.

In creating Social Security, the government made a promise to all Americans that the elderly

will be able to live, not starve, and have some sort of retirement with dignity so that they will, hopefully, not have to work demeaning jobs just to scrape together enough to survive. That promise has been kept these past seventy years because the program is guaranteed through the Trust Fund investing in government bonds. Personal accounts take away the foundation of that promise. Now, I am 22-years-old and not yet very concerned with my retirement. But, when I do reach old age though, and am able to say things like "back in my day," and to sneak my grandchildren sweets without their parents noticing, I hope the government will still be able to keep its promise that I, and all other retirees, will be able to live with some financial security.

From what I hear, decentralized dining is one of the crown jewels of the commons system. Once every commons has its own dining hall, "Commons Spirit" will ring free and saturate the air with happiness, joy and commons-love. Judging from this last weekend, the first of what will probably be many Proctor-less weekends, I think the new Atwater dining hall has done just that — minus the happiness, joy and commons-love.

Last weekend was the first during which Proctor, the only dining hall south of route 125, did not serve meals through the weekend. The closing effectively killed the beloved Proctor brunch — doughnuts, tater tots all. In several e-mails sent out earlier this week, Commons Resident Advisors (CRA) urged members of Brainerd and Wonnacott Commons to band together and fight the closing.

"Wonnacott is teaming up with Brainerd to help save Proctor from being closed on the weekends," wrote one of the CRAs. The hungry Brainerdians and Wonnacotties will stop at no end till justice is achieved — signing petitions, hassling Matthew Biette and filling this page with angry op-eds submissions.

They say nothing unites people like hardship — I do not know how much Atwater Dining has brought together the wonderful people of that commons, but I have never seen people so proud to be in Brainerd or Wonnacott. As if losing a dining hall brings a commons together. This unity needs to be spread. In that spirit I propose this: In order that all commons should have great happiness, joy and commons-love, each should have an opportunity to be closed from Friday to Sunday evening.

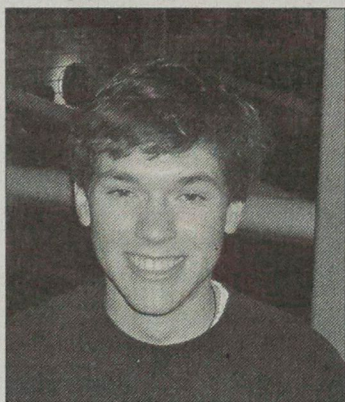
If Brainerd and Wonnacott go every weekend without a dining hall they will become insanely united. They will love their commons to the point that they set out to destroy all others (or at least Atwater since it is all their fault). At the same time, Ross and Atwater will forget their roots — the days when they had no dining hall at the doorstep.

A little bit of suffering makes us all stronger. For the sake of the commons, each one of them should share in the delight of having to walk across Battell Beach in the middle of January to get their morning tater tots.

—BEN SALKOWE

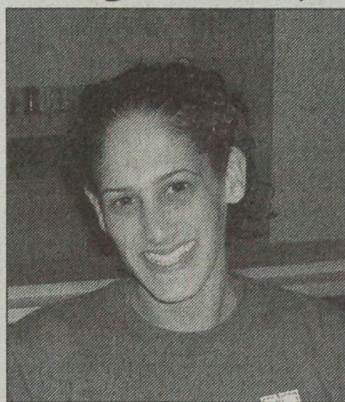
SPECIAL PROJECTS EDITOR

## The Middlebury Campus online poll



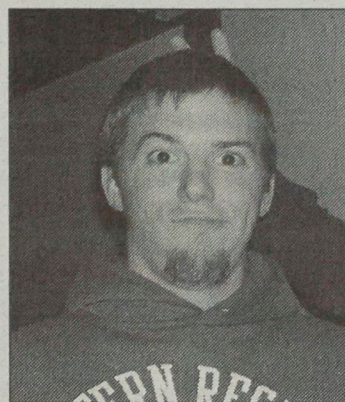
NO, I FEEL SAFE AND MY ROOMMATE HAS BIG RIPPLING MUSCLES.

—JAY DOLAN '08



NO, I HAVE BEEN TRAINED BY THE JEDI MASTERS.

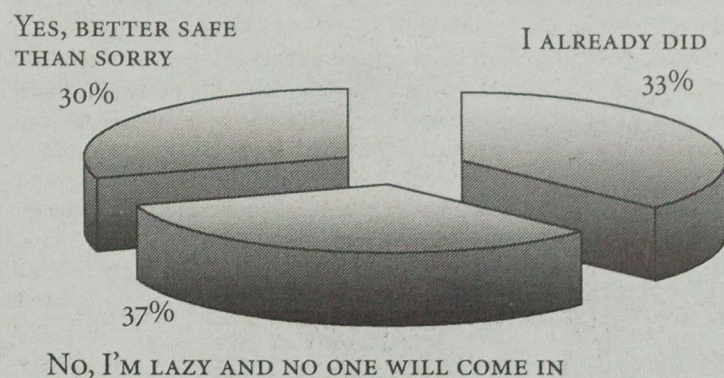
—DANA WEISSMAN '07



NO, I HAVEN'T LOCKED MY DOOR SINCE I'VE BEEN AT MIDDLEBURY.

—ANDREW HAILE '07

### FOLLOWING REPEAT INCIDENTS OF DORM ROOM INTRUSION, HAVE YOU BEGUN TO LOCK YOUR DOOR AT NIGHT?



Results based on 51 responses collected between February 10 and 15 at [www.middleburycampus.com](http://www.middleburycampus.com)

NEXT WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:  
SHOULD PROCTOR DINING HALL BE OPEN ON WEEKENDS?



## Military should be allowed to recruit

As the "student who wanted classmates to know about educational programs to help students pursue commissions with the U.S. Marine Corps" cited in *The Middlebury Campus'* coverage of Captain Doucette's visit to campus, I should explain how and why the Captain's visit came about. I am an officer candidate in the Marine Corps' Platoon Leaders Class program. Having completed two summers of training in Quantico, Va., I will be commissioned as a second lieutenant upon graduation this May.

Previously, the military was prohibited from openly recruiting on campus. This did not mean that the military

could not visit — Captain Doucette and his predecessor have come to Middlebury a half-dozen times in the last four years, meeting with students informally in such settings as the Grille.

I set about trying to change the school's policy of blocking the military from making official visits to campus because I believe that many Middlebury students would make outstanding officers, and that students would be interested if the military were given the same on-campus recruiting privileges afforded to organizations such as Goldman Sachs, graduate schools and the Peace Corps.

The overwhelming majority of people in the military and I strongly support the military's policy on homosexual conduct, my purpose in writing this piece is not to defend that policy. Rather, it is to explain why even those who disagree with said policy should respect the military's efforts to openly recruit its future officers on Middlebury's campus.

Last week, as part of their protests, members of MOQA bemoaned the loss of qualified linguists who have been discharged because they have violated the military's policy on homosexual conduct. To rectify this problem, they propose stopping the military from recruiting at Middlebury, which is home to the

most prestigious undergraduate language program in the country. I must admit that this doesn't make a lot of sense to me.

However, the implications of this comment do illustrate an important point. The military is indeed a very conservative environment — based on my experiences so far, I find myself on the right end of the political spectrum that exists within Middlebury, and on the left end within the Marine Corps. I think we can all agree that the extreme rightward polarization of the military is a disturbing trend. Letting the military recruit at Middlebury will increase the political diversity of the officer corps and help

to liberalize the military.

Finally, it would behoove those who protested Captain Doucette's visit to remember that though the military discriminates in its hiring practices, it does not discriminate in terms of whom it defends.

The military protects the freedoms of all Americans, regardless of their race, gender, creed or sexual orientation. We are currently at war with terrorists who are trying to take our freedoms away from us.

The protestors who stood outside Proctor last week want to prevent the military from recruiting Middlebury students who could capably lead American forces in this war because they see the military's hiring practices as unfair. This is as shortsighted and irresponsible an argument as I have ever seen. If members of our community have problems with the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, they should take advantage of the fact that we live in a democracy with a civilian-controlled military and write to the elected officials who represent them in Washington to ask them to change that policy. In the meantime, they should stop trying to prevent Middlebury students from serving their country.

DAN MOROSANI '05  
AN IP&E AND RUSSIAN MAJOR  
FROM NEW YORK, N.Y.

## Middlebury

COLLEGE

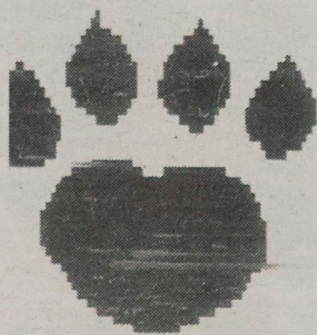
MiddCard

218749

STUDENT

Issued: 02/05/03

Date of Birth: 071284



## Midd takes action against aliens

President Liebowitz to Reinforce All Campus Roofs with Titanium to Prevent Alien Abductions

In a bold move to curb what the head of Public Safety described as a "growing rash" of alien abductions on campus, the freshman President of the College Ron Liebowitz announced today that the roofs of all residential buildings on campus would be reinforced with titanium. What he meant to say, he said in a second campus wide e-mail which read, that in fact a "stake holder" committee would be formed to debate the matter while he prepared the contract bidding and then went ahead regardless of their recommendations [for a complete description of disenfranchisement through irrelevant committees, see section VI of the College Handbook].

The current uproar on campus began last semester when several students reported looking out their window to see large, glowing, disk-shaped object hovering outside the fifth floor of Milliken. While staring at the light, the three young men reported feeling as if they were "melting away." When they returned to a solid state, they found they were inside what appeared to be a space ship. None could remember what happened after being taken aboard the spacecraft, which suggests that it was probably pretty fun.

The second incident occurred during a J-term workshop on contacting extraterrestrials using short wave radio. Despite the obvious technical drawbacks of shortwave — the fact that the waves never leave the atmosphere — a transmitter was assembled on the roof of the new Atwater dorms. Again, late at night, several young men saw a large, glowing disc and were "beamed" aboard. All were safely returned.

Many students were non-plussed. One anonymous Junior who sold all six young men what he called "significant" quantities of hallucinogenic bufotone toads seemed to think that the whole thing was fabricated. "If

you want to stop partying with the aliens, stop licking the damn toads, dude."

Another student, Terray Sylvester, thought they had it coming. "Weren't those guys, like, actively *trying* to contact aliens? I mean if that's their goal, why should we be discouraging them from that, especially at such an expense?" Mr. Sylvester's companion at Ross dining hall, Mr. "Ahkong" Fuller wondered aloud, "Does anyone really know if titanium can guard against dematerialization rays?"

The issue of expense was on the minds of many of the students. Indeed, the Student Government Association leaked news that the comprehensive fee would jump 20% next year, unless the market price of structural titanium beams drops below \$10,000 per linear foot.

"Really, no expense or inconvenience is too great when it comes to making sure our students aren't abducted by entities which may or may not be hallucinations and/or inter-galactic frat-boys," President Liebowitz said in a follow up interview.

And speaking of inconvenience, during next J-term, while construction takes place, everyone living on the top floor of any dorm will be relocated to snow tunnels underneath Battell Beach.

Opined one perpetually disgruntled 5th year student, "I mean come on, this makes almost as little sense as that time they spent a million dollars on card swipers after a drug dealer got robbed. Or when they started locking the dorms all the time because of drunken 'intrusions' that had been happening for two decades without incident. Aliens? For goodness sakes, the President must be licking those toads."

BEN GORE '05  
AN ENGLISH STUDIES MAJOR  
FROM GAITHERSBURG, MD.

## Middlebury's access card system is overkill

I'm standing outside my dorm in the freezing cold, staring at the red light that politely informs me I am locked out. I lost my access card and this has become a regular routine on late library nights. I've tried all the other doors, pulled as hard as I can, and fired a few snowballs at my suitemate's window. Things are looking desperate. Question: Do you think I'll get in?

Apparently, the administration thinks that the answer is no. But ask any student, and they would — after likely empathizing with my situation — probably reply yes. As the cliché goes, "Where there's a will, there's a way."

Getting past

the access card system is not rocket science. Sometimes it means wandering around the building to find a door that someone has propped open so as to make sure they are no longer barred from their own residence. Often it means just waiting until someone enters or exits and then sneaking in behind them. If you're committed, you'll make it in eventually. So why do we think that switching to the 24-hour access card entry system is going to bar any potential intruders who have some degree of "will" to get inside?

If we lived in the inner city, then perhaps this change would be justifiable. If we lived somewhere warm, then perhaps this change would be tolerable.

If we had some record of dangerous incidents or thefts then perhaps this change would be sensible. None of these scenarios is the case. We live

between two farms with — lucky for us — non-threatening livestock. The average temperature in the month of January, with wind-chill, was negative. And the extent of our on-campus record of "break-ins" have not only become running jokes — Who IS the Jangler? — but they all could easily have been prevented by...wait for it...locking your own door.

This 24-hour a day idea is not only unreasonable, but it's completely deaf to the wants and needs of the student. We want high security on campus, but we NEED to be able to get in to our dorms when we forgot our access cards and its -15 degrees out. Sure, we need to feel safe, but we want to be made to feel safe by a system that works. The access card system does not work; in fact, it's a joke — much like the Jangler.

Why don't we ever vote on issues at this school? I get over 200 e-mails a day from CSO so I know that as students, we are pretty damn reachable. This move to 24-

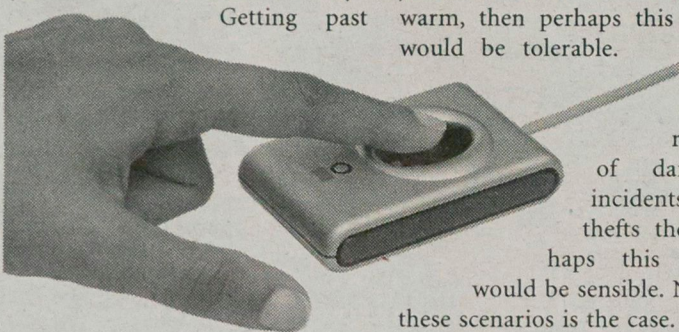
hour access-card-only security is a change that will drastically affect our college lives. Why don't we have a say in whether we want our ability to traverse campus to depend on a piece of plastic that's probably in the jacket we wore yesterday? For an institution that prides itself on teaching and valuing liberal and democratic principles, I'm amazed that we don't vote or even consider voting when campus-wide issues like these are considered. I'm not talking about voting for my commons co-chair — everybody knows that they're just figureheads, anyway. I'm talking about allowing students to at least voice an opinion on, if not influence, the issues that affect them. This can be done using something as simple, quick and efficient as an online poll. Technology makes things other than 24-hour lockdowns possible, I swear.

A professor once said, "It's amazing that a school as small as Middlebury could host such a huge bureaucracy." I'm telling you, every

year I spend here I agree with that statement more and more. The access card system is so easily circumvented that it's laughable, the prevalence and history of crime in this area is again, laughable; but yet we stick with and now move to drastically increase the scope of a security system because on paper, it makes sense. But the administration does not live on campus. The students do. And in reality, it does not make sense. You don't have to listen, but just for kicks, do an online poll and see what the students think about the access card system. Heck, maybe go crazy and try asking students what they think might be more effective alternatives. We can do things besides build cars that run on vegetable oil, you know.

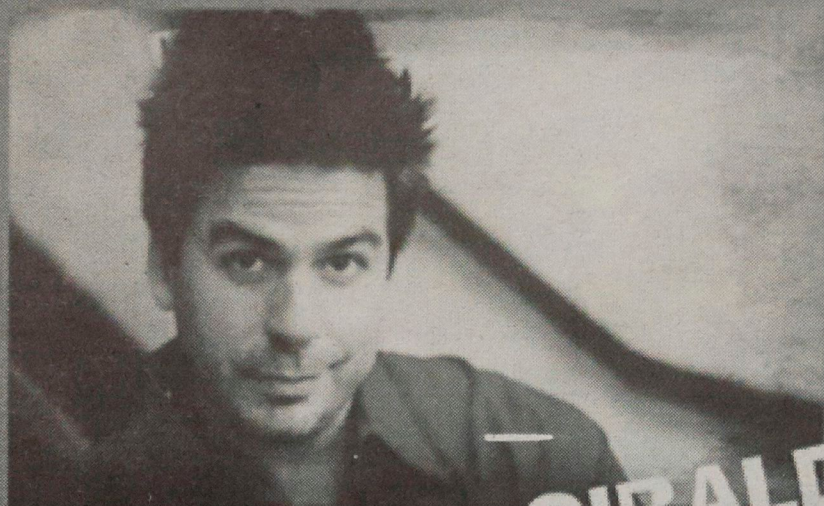
Now if you'll excuse me, I have to go find my access card.

SARAH MCCABE '04  
A PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR  
FROM PITTSFORD, N.Y.





# MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE COMEDY SHOW



**GREG GIRALDO**



**CHRISTIAN FINNEGAN**

**When: Friday, Feb. 18th, 8:00,  
doors open @ 7:30  
Where: Wright Theater**

**CHRISTIAN FINNEGAN** ([www.christianfinnegan.com](http://www.christianfinnegan.com)) is best known for his recurring character in *The Chappelle Show* and for his commentary on VH1's *Best Week Ever*. Besides being one of the most well-known comics on the New York circuit, he has also been featured on *Comedy Central's Premium Blend* and *Shorties Watching Shorties*. "His material has an offbeat, fresh quality and a wit and intelligence that make him extremely likeable" (Backstage).

**GREG GIRALDO** ([www.greggiraldo.com](http://www.greggiraldo.com)) is hailed as one of New York's most talented comedians and one of *Comedy Central's* greatest comedians of all time. He is a regular panelist on *Tough Crowd* with Colin Quinn, a featured comedian on *Comedy Central Presents*, and has performed with David Letterman and Conan O'Brien. Don't miss this hilarious comic, described as the next John Stewart, who "sits on the brink of stardom" (Time Out New York).

Tickets: Box Office, X6433 or [www.middlebury.edu/arts/tickets](http://www.middlebury.edu/arts/tickets), beginning Feb. 9th



## students:faculty



## Students asks Trustees to think big

**At the annual presentation to Board of Trustees, SGA Comprehensive Fee Committee put out a major proposal to reduce the College's student-faculty ratio**

By Ben Salkow  
SPECIAL PROJECTS EDITOR

As a centerpiece to their proposal for the College's 2005-2006 operating budget, members of the Student Government Association's (SGA) Comprehensive Fee Committee asked Trustees of the College last Friday to consider an ambitious plan to reduce the College's student-faculty ratio (the number of students to the number of faculty) from 11:1 to 9:1 over the next six years. The Committee is a group of students who work independent of the College administration to calculate an operating budget for the College and present it at the annual Trustee meeting where the comprehensive fee is voted on.

If recent years are any indication, the official comprehensive fee for 2005-2006 that will be announced in the coming weeks will numerically bear little reflection of the student proposal — the students suggested a 2005-2006 fee of \$42,420, a 5 percent increase. To avoid tension with the Trustees over setting the comprehensive fee, this year's committee chose to pursue issues over figures. "I wanted to keep the discussion clean and stay away from numbers," said Committee Chair Dustin Dolginow '05.5.

"Our approach was focused on the issues." According to the administration the student proposals are taken seriously, thus putting the proposal for reducing the student-faculty ratio up for debate in the College community.

### A relative problem?

By most measures, Middlebury's current student-faculty ratio can hardly be described as poor, particularly when compared to most national universities and larger colleges. Speaking to the SGA last Sunday, President Liebowitz pointed to the College's low student-faculty ratios in language courses. "In language fields we are better [than other colleges]," said Liebowitz.

In overall comparison with other highly selective liberal arts colleges, however, the College performs less extravagantly.

Middlebury's student-faculty ratio last year (TABLE) was behind every one of its competitors in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC), the group of 11 highly competitive liberal arts colleges in which Middlebury competes.

**"I wanted to keep the discussion clean and stay away from numbers. Our approach was focused on the issues."**

—Dustin Dolginow '05.5

The percentage of classes offered by the College with more than 50 students enrolled in them was also higher than the other NESCAC schools — four times the percentage at

Colby College and eight times that at Hamilton College.

"Our peer institutions all have lower faculty ratios," said Zahra Valimahomed '06,

**"Our peer institutions all have lower faculty ratios. Our survey indicated that there is frustration among students."**

—Zahra Valimahomed '06

who presented the student-faculty ratio proposal as part of the SGA Comprehensive Fee Committee's presentation to the students. "Our survey indicated that there is frustration among students."

The survey conducted by the SGA Comprehensive Fee Committee for the purposes of setting its priorities demonstrated strong support among students for reducing the student-faculty ratio. Most students interviewed told *The Campus* they agreed.

"Honestly, I feel like 11:1 is a pretty good number," said Meg Young '07. "[But] if we do have it I don't feel it yet."

Young said she did not think she had ever been in a class with an 11:1 ratio. "I have been in 60 person psychology classes and classes where I've had to keep raising my hand to make sure the professor knew my name," she said.

Second only to improving financial aid, students ranked hiring more faculty and offering more seminar courses the most important area in which the College could make itself more attractive to prospective students, (GRAPHS).

When asked whether they would support such policy even if it cost each student \$2000, still 40 percent said they would sup-



port it.

"It's not surprising students show a lot of support," said Liebowitz. He noted that students are "smart" and understandably want smaller classes and more access to faculty.

**"Honestly, I feel like 11:1 is a pretty good number, but if we do have it I don't feel it yet."**

**—Meg Young '07**

"It's been brought up a lot in the past year," Liebowitz told the SGA. "We are asked about it and it's on all of our radar screens."

### Possible complications

"Yes, generally most faculty members and the administration are in favor of trying to reduce the ratio if possible," said Susan Campbell, dean of the faculty and professor of Psychology. She noted that reducing the student-faculty ratio could reduce enrollment pressures in popular departments, lighten faculty course loads and possibly allow for innovations in the curriculum.

Campbell also noted, however, that before moving ahead discussion was necessary to consider all of the implications. "If we were to add faculty members, what would that mean?" she said.

Hiring enough faculty to lower the student-faculty ratio to 9:1, while a popular idea, entails a host of complications including necessary additions in infrastructure.

"In our department, we frequently find ourselves unable to accommodate all the students who wish to take our courses, especially the ones at the introductory level," said Murray Dry, Charles A. Dana professor of Political Science and chair of the Political Science department. Dry said that the department was bringing in two new professors next year, with hopes of reducing some enrollment pressures.

"Apart from that, if we do increase the size of the faculty in order to reduce our ratio, we will need more office space, and perhaps more classroom space," said Dry. "I am not sure of the latter but I am sure of the former."

### A new curriculum?

In addition to the need for more office space and classrooms, which would

be necessary for the many new faculty that would have to be hired to lower the ratio, there are also questions of how such changes would affect the College's curriculum.

A student-faculty ratio of only 9:1 could offer the College new opportunities for innovation in its curriculum. Some examples exist currently in other NES-CAC Colleges.

Williams College, with a student-faculty ratio of 8:1 has taken advantage of its low ratio to offer a unique tutorial form of classes modeled after Oxford programs. The classes, according to Williams' course catalog, "aim to teach students how to develop and present arguments; listen carefully, and then refine their positions in the context of a challenging discussion; and respond quickly and cogently to critiques of their work."

A tutorial class has 10 students, however the full class only meets at the beginning and end of the semester. At the first meeting the professor splits the class into pairs. Each pair has a weekly meeting with the professor where one of the

**"If we do increase the size of the faculty to reduce our ratio, we will need more office space and perhaps more classroom space. I am not sure of the latter but I am sure of the former."**

**—Murray Dry, Charles A. Dana Professor**

two students presents a paper, study or experiment they have prepared on a given topic which they present, argue and defend against the evaluation and criticism of the other student.

Similar programs have been instituted at other colleges, including Swarthmore College (with student-faculty ratio of 8:1) where a full honors program has been implemented focusing on small classes and seminars.

The costs of these programs, howev-

## Comparison of student-faculty ratios for NESCAC schools

|                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Amherst<br>8:1              | Middlebury<br>11:1 |
| Bates<br>10:1               | Trinity<br>10:1    |
| Bowdoin<br>10:1             | Tufts<br>7:1       |
| Colby<br>10:1               | Wesleyan<br>9:1    |
| Connecticut College<br>10:1 | Williams<br>8:1    |
| Hamilton<br>9:1             |                    |

Source: U.S. News & World Report

er, are significant. In order to continue growing its tutorial program Williams College had to raise its comprehensive fee by 6.6 percent last year.

Liebowitz said that while there are no official plans yet to lower the student-faculty ratio, if such plans were pursued they would likely not be for such programs. "We would be doing it to free up faculty," said Liebowitz.

Students commented that while such programs sounded attractive, more moderate aspirations might serve just as well.

"That sounds like an amazing idea," said Young. "But honestly the best learning experiences I've had are in the language departments here." Young said the College might be best served by striving to replicate those learning environments, which are among the smallest classes offered — even at the introductory level.

### Momentum for change

"The way that the issue is being discussed is in the [College's strategic] planning committee, task forces looking into these questions," said Campbell. The College's strategic planning committee is

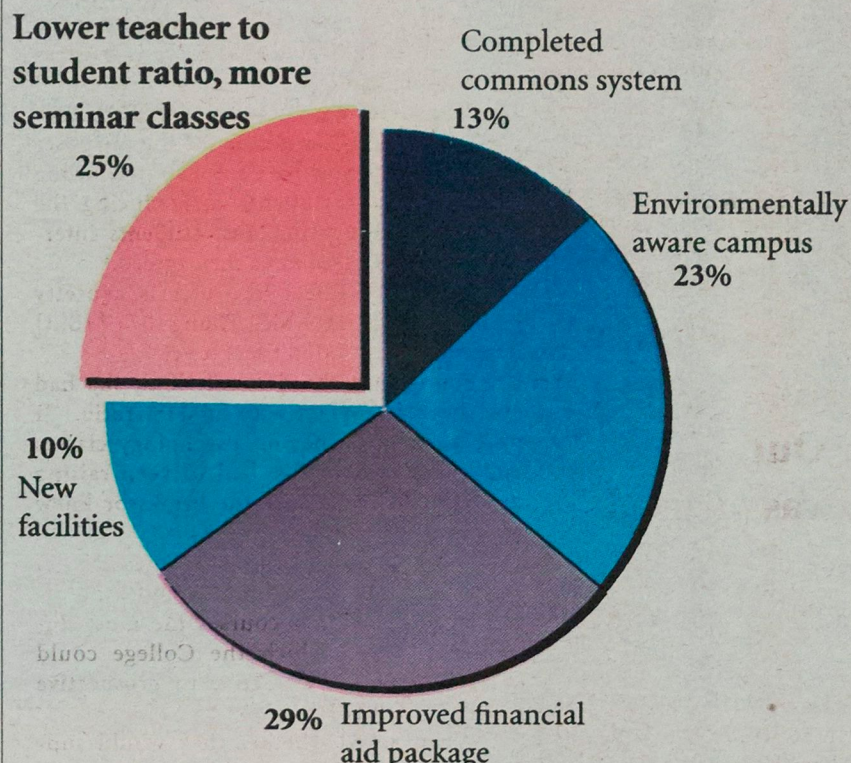
currently in the early stages of preparing a plan for the College's future. Administrators say it is possible that plan will include something in the spirit of the SGA comprehensive fee committee's proposal.

Other options to address enrollment pressures and free faculty time may include changes to what Liebowitz called a very open curriculum. Ac-

**"There's a real sense of enthusiasm when students are willing to put these things above dining services and dorm [improvements]. There's a lot of momentum for this to happen."**

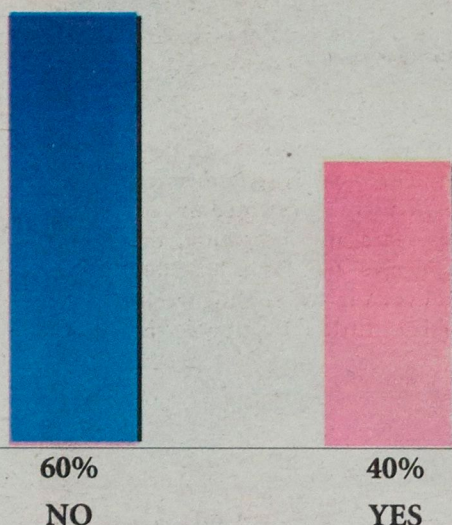
**—Susan Campbell, Dean of the Faculty and Professor of Psychology**

### #1 Improvement needed to make Middlebury More Attractive to Prospective Students



Source: SGA Survey of 483 Students

### Would you support a proposal to reduce the student-faculty ratio if it cost each student \$2,000?



According to Liebowitz, the large number of students choosing double majors means many students have multiple advisors, which consumes more faculty time. "There are hidden costs to our open curriculum," said Liebowitz.

Liebowitz said the administration will be discussing ways of freeing faculty and said that although the proposal to reduce the student-ratio will not be part of this year's budget, it is being discussed.

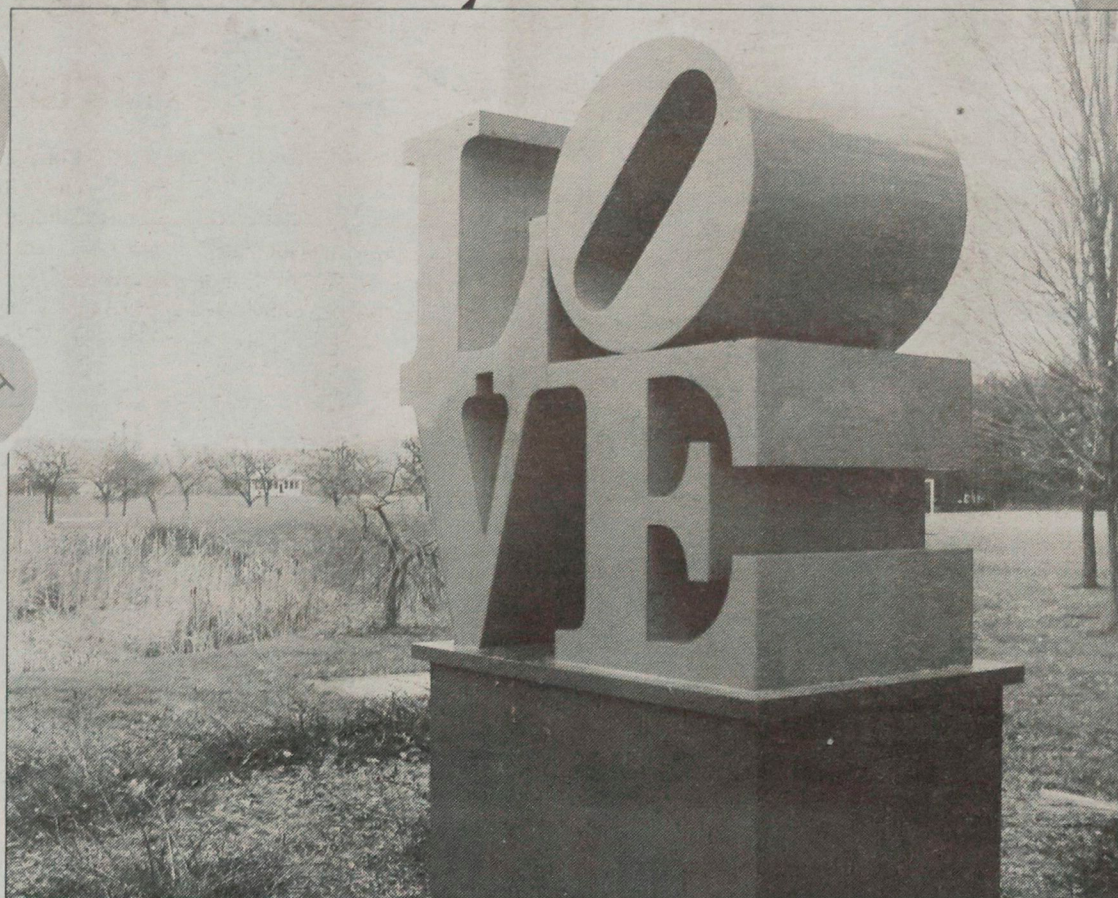
"There's a real sense of enthusiasm when students are willing to put these things above dining services and dorm [improvements]," said Campbell. "There's a lot of momentum for this to happen."

Information on the Planning for Middlebury's Future can be found at <http://www.middlebury.edu/administration/plan->



## features

## Valentine's Day revisited



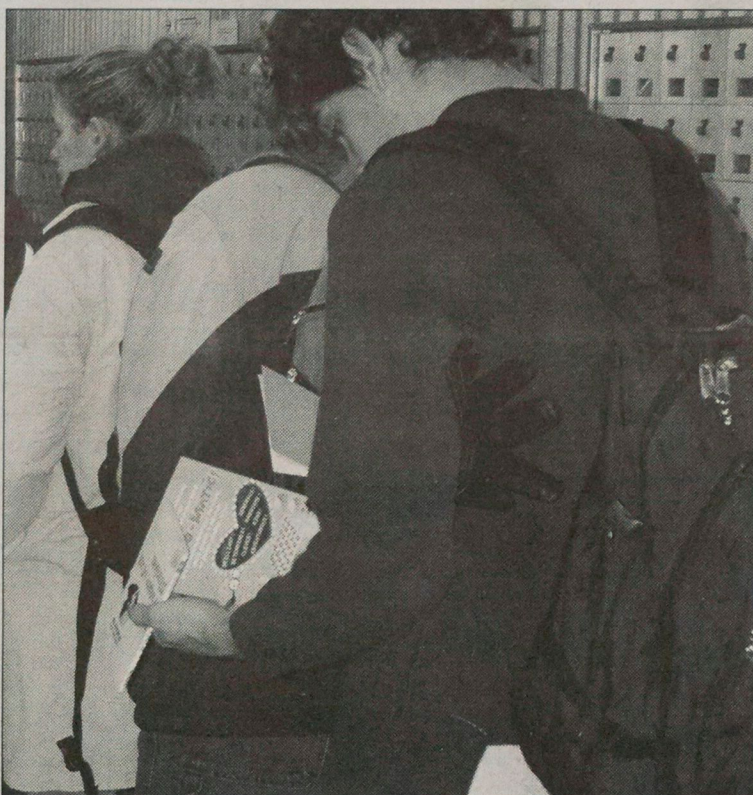
Sixiao Huo

Set behind the CFA, Robert Indiana's "Love" captured the real emotion of Valentine's Day.

**17**  
**FEBS GET ORIENTED**  
INCOMING STUDENTS SOCIALIZE AND ACCLIMATE

**18**  
**HAIL A MIDDCAB**  
MIDD TRANSIT EXPANDS TO OFFER CAB SERVICES

**19**  
**ATWATER DINING**  
WHAT STUDENTS LIKE AND DON'T LIKE ABOUT THE NEW DINING HALL



Nirvana Bhatia

Students waited in a line for up to 20 minutes in the mai room to retrieve packages. The line wrapped around the entire length of the facility.



Ari Joseph

Wine as sweet as true love helped set the romantic scene for a lovely Valentine's Day celebration. Entenmann's donuts were a nice added touch.

By Caroline Vial  
FEATURES EDITOR

Wake up and smell the chocolates everyone! Happy Valentine's Day! Perhaps this year's venue of Cupid's symbolic day of lust had arrows aimed at your own beating heart. Whether it was sharing the V-Day specials at a local restaurant with their loved ones, watching the "Vagina Monologues" or spending a sensuous evening in the biology labs, members of the Middlebury community survived the flurry of Valentine's Day salty notes, chocolaty gifts and Hallmark cards, leaving us with a whirlwind of bittersweet impressions.

Sensuality was interpreted in all its layers this Monday, Feb. 14, as many students boasted a newfound allure for certain dorm room occupations. "My Chinese homework and I shared a very intense and touching evening," said Bill Birkett '07. "You should have seen the look on its face when I showed it the see-through negligé that I had bought for it." This year's Valentine's Day seems indeed to have laid the platform for some curious sensual behavior among students. Pascal Losambé '07 explains the probable cause behind these curious actions, saying that "Valentine's Day is a day of joy, laughter, expectation and anticipation. When Cupid's arrow strikes you, you get filled with the spirit of St. Valentine. I love this day."

When it comes to entertainment, students such as Bobby Mehr '08 seemed to encounter no problems finding it. "I enjoyed the play," he said, with what seemed to be a wink of an eye. Such an outlook must explain the level of concern over the inappropriateness of V-Day. "A day of chocolate, love and pleasure during Lent — now who planned that?" asked Ashley Timidaiki '07.

The event's sacrilegious implications are merely one topic of discontentment, as some members of the student body would rather do without the holiday and its overarching commercial stigma. "Valentine's Day is a good reason to have the 'Vagina Monologues,'" said Okka Khairani '05.5, "but otherwise, I think it should be abolished. Hallmark is rich enough as it is!" Stephanie Dosch '05 agreed, "Valentine's Day is created and sustained by the greeting card companies." She did admit, however, "If there is a special someone, it can be pretty nice."

When asked whether Valentine's Day is the perfect time to express one's love and affection or an occasion to boycott consumerism, Tabby Connor '05 said, "It shouldn't be misconstrued as the most or only romantic day of the year, nor should it be ridiculed as an event reserved for those addicted to the Lifetime movie network. Use it instead to celebrate the love of friends, family or significant others with un-abased abandon." Rebecca Kanengiser '05 admitted to feelings of a different nature, saying, "The holiday needs to evolve because it is just so consumer-oriented and lame. I want to be celebrating love everyday. A goal for future V-days, however, would be making thousands of dollars in donations to WomenSafe."

Yet others have it rough in terms of love. "For the last four years, I've spent Valentine's Day outside, in sub-zero-degree weather, running my Lacrosse conditioning test. It all seems quite appropriate really — binge on chocolate all day, sprint it off in the afternoon and go home to crash alone, too tired to call up any significant other or potential V-Day hook-up," admitted Johanna Rosenfield '05.

Commercialism did not stop Kate Elias '06 from enjoying her own version of V-Day excitement. She declared, "Valentine's Day only exists to make people buy things. [That] is why I was so thrilled when my friend Hannah pulled out a stack of romance novels she had bought for the occasion. We all got to choose one. I chose 'Bayou Rose' — a sensual story of a bold beauty. That's what I call love!" And indeed it is.



# Orientation helps new Febs to adjust with ease

## Chocolate fountain and enthusiastic Febs leaders make '08.5s feel welcome

By Max Nardini  
STAFF WRITER

When the nearly 120 students who comprise the class of 2008.5 arrived on campus on Feb. 2, most had already built ties to their Feb and first-year classmates — all thanks to the Internet.

Before their orientation even began, the incoming students corresponded by e-mail with first-year students who enrolled in September. The pilot program — which paired the incoming Febs with Reg buddies — was intended to alleviate new students' trepidation and make orientation more relaxed.

Thefacebook.com also helped many Febs become acquainted with each other prior to their arrival on campus. Over half of the Feb class registered on the site and joined the "FebMiddkids '08.5" group.

Once the new students made it to campus, however, their adjustment to Middlebury College was facilitated the old-fashioned way — through the guidance, enthusiasm and energy of Feb leaders.

Orientation consisted of several days of informational and recreational activities intended to help integrate the new students into the College community and allow them to socialize with their class. This year's program has received high praise from both the incoming Febs

and the College administration.

Karen Guttentag, assistant dean of Student Affairs and coordinator of Feb orientation, noted that a major "factor in the orientation program's success was the incredible work done by the 28 sophomore Feb leaders and two senior co-chairs."

Many members of the class of 2008.5 were equally enthusiastic about the orientation. Andrea Glaessner '08.5 said that when she first arrived on campus, "I was excited that [the Feb leaders] were excited."

"At first I was overwhelmed by everything to do, but I really had fun," Glaessner said. She cited the square dance as one of her favorite activities and added, "Thefacebook.com helped people to get to know each other before they got to the campus."

Dina Magaril '08.5 was equally happy with the orientation. She particularly praised the food, saying, "They spoiled us rotten." Magaril even claimed that the chocolate Fondue Fountain at orientation "made all [her] dreams come true." While Magaril said that her new classmates did not have much down-time during the day to relax, she was ultimately very pleased with her experience.

Peter Mueller '08.5 thought

that the Saturday trip to the Snowbowl and the square dance were the best events for meeting other students. "At the square dance you were forced to switch partners, so you met a lot of people," Mueller said. "Also, the skiing trip helped because you got to sit next to one person on the chairlift for a few minutes and get to know them better."

A Ski Patrol torch parade — during which members of the Snow Bowl's patrol spelled out "M" for Middlebury on the slopes — completed the experience for Mueller. "When I saw [the torch parade] I got the impression that I was at the best school ever," he said.

Feb leaders Leah Day '07.5 and Will Martin '07.5 shared their sentiments regarding Orientation. Day commented, "[The orientation program] is a great way to bridge the gap between older and younger Feb classes."

Echoing Day's response, Martin said, "It is a great way to pass on the Feb experience and meet new people."

Guttentag has already begun planning on next year's orientation program. The new Febs will soon receive an online evaluation of the program, and Guttentag will meet with the Feb leaders in a continued effort to improve the Feb orientation program.



Courtesy

Feb leaders show their spirit and spunk during orientation. These leaders helped incoming members of the class of '08.5 adjust to life at Midd.

# Don't sweat it —

## Midd gear made in safe working conditions

By Caitlin Taylor & Adam Posner  
STAFF WRITER

When a student drifts into the College Bookstore in Proctor Hall, an assortment of clothing brands await the shopper. From Jansport to Russell Athletics, Champion to GEAR and Cotton Exchange, the manufacturers that supply Middlebury's insignia wear were chosen for meeting distinct standards in the production of their goods. The process employed to select these companies has evolved dramatically in the last few years.

Among colleges and universities, Middlebury College has been at the fore of the movement banning sweatshops and inhumane working conditions in the factories of their manufacturers. In 1998, the issue of sweatshops was brought to the attention of College Store Manager Bob Santry by four students inspecting the labels of clothing in the College bookstore.

An alliance between Santry and the students quickly developed, and the group of students, Santry and two faculty members founded a group to draft a code of conduct which Middlebury would abide by in their purchasing of clothing. The Code of Conduct, completed in the Fall of 1999, titled "Middlebury College Apparel Manufacturers Code of Conduct" provides

the standards of labor and facility conditions that Middlebury would tolerate of its manufacturers.

The tenets established stretch to all corners of the workplace. In addition to banning companies that employ children under the age of 15 and use forced labor, the Code also laid out regulations for health and safety, nondiscrimination, women's rights, working hours, wages and benefits, and harassment and abuse.

This Code of Conduct was later used as a model for the Worker's Rights Consortium (WRC) Code of Conduct. Many of the principles founded in Middlebury's Code were incorporated into the codes of schools across the nation in the drafting of their own codes.

The WRC, a non-profit organization, is the primary tool that Middlebury and many other schools use to ensure the quality of the working conditions in factories contracted to produce clothing. It sends officials, typically labor rights experts, to apparel manufacturing facilities to make both announced and unannounced visits.

During these visits, the officials determine whether or not the facilities meet the standards set out by the Code of Conduct. The WRC then submits a report to the member colleges and universities detail-



Sixiao Huo

Midd-kids may sweat in the athletic gear they purchase at the College Bookstore, but they can rest assured that their sporty duds are not made in sweatshops thanks to the College's commitment to just labor practices.

ing its findings.

Middlebury was the 14th school to join the WRC out of the 134 currently counted as members. The decision to join was made by President Emeritus President M. John McCardell, Jr. in response to student uproar in the late 1990s — a time when sweatshops and the working conditions at factories in Asia were one of the hottest issues on campus, sparking sit-ins, demonstrations and other forms of discontent among the student body.

Since Middlebury joined a few years ago, the WRC has rapidly risen

in stature and now includes several large universities, such as Arizona State, Boston College, Cornell University, Duke University, Harvard University, University of Michigan, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and the entire University of California system.

The increase in WRC membership is vital to the Consortium's success, as its funding is solely based on the contribution members. A small college such as Middlebury only pays about \$1,000 a year, while a large university might give the WRC a percentage of its royalties

that could reach \$50,000 a year.

Many manufacturers have helped to facilitate the thorough examination of their facilities. Jansport, one of the college's providers, lists on its website all of the manufacturing facilities and contractors it employs in the process, including the addresses of each of these places. It asserts that it has "the moral obligation to our customers to provide them not only with quality products, but to ensure them that these products are made under safe, ethical, and lawful conditions."





BY MATT KUNZWEILER

It takes a lot out of me to feign enthusiasm, which is a major social setback sometimes. If someone who really loves the movie "Con Air," asks me what I thought of it, and I remark that "the action scenes were very well choreographed," I'll hate myself, and my face will divulge this. If someone asks me how a social house party was, and I respond, "Fantastic!" I'll be exhausted for the next few minutes. I'll need water. Fresh air. Some alone time.

Ironically enough, one of my fellow interns at the non-profit institute where I worked this summer was fired, and upon her dismissal, I found myself taking her place at the reception desk. Reception — the fate was too cruel to be anticipated. I never thought that someone responsible could knowingly place me in such a position.

But the next thing I know, I'm answering phones with rehearsed chiming monotony, forwarding calls and smiling ridiculously at the trustees of the institute. Forty hours a week of faking perkiness almost destroyed me. The sound of my own voice going chipper took me to the brink of breaking down. I had sold out. The man was sticking it to me.

At first, I tried to compensate for this sad realization by driving back from work recklessly, deliberately cutting off expensive SUVs that were likely driven by some incarnate version of the man. I soon realized this was stupid and on par with pre-teen rebellion.

I contemplated quitting my job, but without a paycheck I couldn't afford rent, food or beer. I contemplated working harder (gasp) and sucking up (ditto) to get a promotion, but I remembered that I was an intern, a position without upward mobility.

So, I resigned myself to work. I spent the next two months becoming more and more programmed. I perfected the courtesy laugh, the mercy laugh and the polite reserved chuckle just right for acknowledging the oh-so-clever witticisms of affected donors. When asked, my day was always "Fine, and yours?" Yes, I was a tool. But I was on the payroll, damn it.

After the summer, I retired my slacks and habit of shaving regularly. I packed up my car and drove a couple thousand miles to Vermont. Within a day of my return, I sat at my desk, typing an e-mail at my computer, and the phone rang. I don't know how it happened, but I picked up the phone and in semi-trance I chimed, "Good morning. This is Matt, how may..." and there I caught myself. I hung up the phone before I knew who was on the other end. I sat at my desk for a while. My hands were shaking.

I never found out who called. I hope I never do. It was probably my mother, but she's too kind to ever bring it up. She knows it would crush me.

## MiddCab fills void in community

By Lisie Mehlman  
FEATURES EDITOR

Forget about Brad and Jen. The couple that most intrigues me are Middlebury's own Bill and Sara Fuller. Bill and I go way back. We met on a magical day last spring when my investigative reporting skills led me to inquire about his then-fledgling business endeavor — Middlebury Transit. More recently, I have become well acquainted with Sara, too. I was even lucky enough to be the sole passenger in a van with the couple on a trip from the Burlington Airport a few weeks ago. Bill and Sara are the sweetest, most interesting couple with whom to share a long car ride.

Now, the happily married pair — Bill once informed me that "growing old isn't scary if you marry your best friend" — have expanded their transportation business with a new MiddCab division. The service, Bill explained, "provides local transportation service to guests in Middlebury and surrounding communities."

The Fullers decided to expand their airport and excursion business at the end of last year when Middlebury's only local cab company ceased operation. The couple hoped to profit from the void and provide a necessary service for local residents.

Expanding the business, however, has been harder than the Fullers expected. The most surprising challenge was the "required time and high level of energy needed for



Midd Transit entrepreneur Bill Fuller opens the door for a MiddCab client. MiddCab now offers taxi services.

Edward Francis

rapid growth." Additional hurdles have included the need to recruit and train additional team members who share their "vision for providing exceptional ground transportation service."

The long hours "needed to facilitate required change and growth" have also taken a toll on the Fullers. Bill explained the gradual process of business growth, noting, "Okay, Rome wasn't built in a day. How about a month?"

With MiddCab added to their operation, the Fullers are "somewhat content" with the size of their business, but "continue to look for additional opportunities in regional ground transportation throughout the northeast," Bill said. Clients have taken the Fullers — or, rather, they have taken clients — as far as Emmitsburg, Md.

The part of the job that amuses them the most, however, is when their vans are hired out to drive children during birthday parties. They make the ride a party by decorating the interior of the vans for

the guest of honor. The Fullers have also driven clients to weddings and Bar Mitzvahs and, of course, they fondly recall driving a group of Middlebury girls to Montreal for an evening of debauchery. Bill and Sara napped in the cozy van while the girls "partied the night away." In fact, "student excursions to Montreal with return to the campus in time for breakfast" is a service they offer to all Midd-kids. Bill said he has met "some very interesting people" and that the vans provide "plenty of excitement and fun for everyone."

So, who does most of the driving? Well, Bill does — "most of the time!" But even when the couple finds time to relax, what do they do? "More driving!" They head out to the Adirondacks where they enjoy hiking, antiquing and lawn sales.

## WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

### CORN

Corn bread, corn on the cob, creamed corn, corn casserole... need I continue?

### CAULIFLOWER

You can't do anything with it and it causes digestive unrest.

### RONALDHINO

Looks like a horse, but fun to watch.

### WAYNE ROONEY

Looks like a monkey, but less cute and much meaner.

### WRITING WORDS WITH NUMBERS

5ive (When the Lights Go Out) and Sk8er Boi (Avril Lavigne). Enough said.

### INTERNET ABBREVIATIONS

I HTG, but I'll BRB to TTYL and we'll LOL 'cause you're my BFFAE

## PANTHER TOP 10

What music makes the Middlebury Charts? Here are the top plays from Valentine's Day.

1. David Gray — *This Year's Love*
2. Ewan McGregor — *Your Song*
3. Ben Folds — *The Luckiest*
4. The Association — *Never My Love*
5. Barbra Streisand — *The Way We Were*
6. Eric Clapton — *Wonderful Tonight*
7. The Spice Girls — *2 Become 1*
8. Peter Cetera — *After All*
9. Hero — *Enrique Iglesias*
10. Van Morrison — *Sweet Thing*



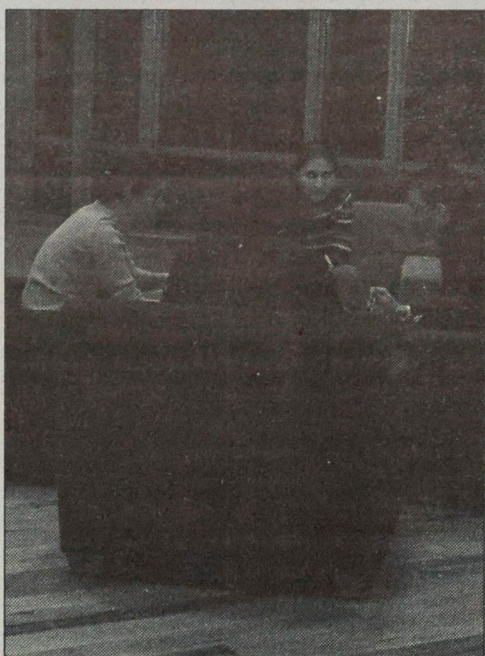
# How does Atwater Dining Hall stack up?

## Yummy

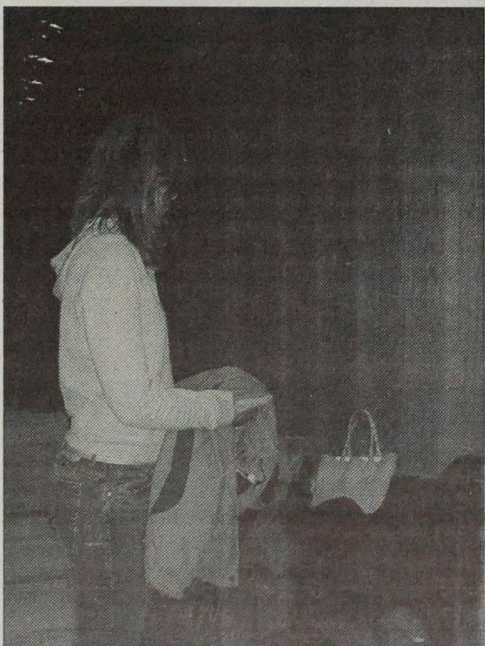
By Matt Kunzweiler  
STAFF WRITER



See you later, sterile “elementary school cafeteria” serving line at Freeman! Hello, bright dishes and beautiful counter space! The Atwater dining team has scored big with presentation. The vibrantly colored serving dishes would make brussel sprouts look good. On Monday, stuffed shells were even served in individual baking dishes.



We’re not sure if we want to eat with our plates in our laps, but these cozy chairs are a good place to chat with friends and sip a Diet Pepsi. How refreshing! Take that Ross.



Too busy to review surveillance footage searching for your missing backpack? Lucky for you Atwater offers a place to stow belongings that is actually in sight of the dining tables. Rest your fears of roving thieves and dine at ease!

After seemingly endless delays, Atwater dining hall opened for its inaugural dinner on Tuesday, Feb. 8 with a line that stretched out of the front doors and past Allen Hall. Since that crowded, confused and hectic opening meal, traffic through Atwater has ebbed and — as the novelty begins to wear away — the dining hall has become less of a tourist attraction and more of a regular face on the campus.

Located behind Allen Hall and Atwater Hall B, the dining hall is the newest addition to the commons system and the Atwater village.

When you walk into the new building, the slanted ceiling rises into the dining room, which is illuminated by wrap around windows. The natural lighting, combined with high ceilings and an expansive feel makes the small dining hall seem much larger than it really is.

Initial student interest in the new facility has been strong, and student reactions have followed suit. The architecture is unarguably bizarre. The building has an odd shape — massive cones cut out the ceiling, a retro color scheme and a rooftop that will eventually be shingled with grass. This architectural style, according to Atwater resident Kathrin Schwesinger '06, “make[s] you feel as though you’re in Johnson [Memorial]” — a building designed in the style of the Brutalist movement. Those who dislike the architecture of the new dining hall admit that its saving grace are the windows, which descend dramatically from floor to ceiling on the backside of the building. Unfortunately, they currently overlook a parking lot and several tennis courts.

However, Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette explained, “The whole landscaping piece isn’t there yet but once it is springtime it will become clear that it’s a really beautiful spot. Sitting eating will feel like you are sitting in the woods with the way that those steel columns work on an angle and compliment the large windows.” Project Manager Mark Gleason echoed these sentiments, saying, “As the snow melts this spring, it will be abundantly evident that we are not fully completed with the construction. The vegetated roof and the site grading, lighting and landscaping will be addressed once conditions allow.”

While general student reactions have been varied, many of Atwater’s strongest advocates also seem to be fans of Ross Dining Hall. This makes sense considering the similarities between the two — both have high ceilings and share a sense of open space and light, offer similar menus and use the same dishware.

But Atwater also shares one of Ross’ most common criticisms — upon entering the dining hall, the student suddenly feels as if on display to the audience of seated students. Atwater’s open setup makes anyone lining up for food an easy victim of people-watching. Students commonly complain that walking into Ross at 6 p.m. is like walking across a spotlighted stage — your clothing, hair, mannerisms and movements might just be topic of conversation at any one of the tables in the audience. With Atwater’s buffets standing in sight of the seating area, many are able to watch you move from station to station as you load up your tray with food — which can contribute to a more self-conscious dining experience.

With the closing of Freeman International Center (FIC), Atwater, by default, has inherited its legacy. But besides the proximity of the two buildings, the dining halls have almost nothing in common. True, when one walks out of Atwater, their clothes will not reek of deep-fried grease, and so far, most students agree that the Atwater fare is an improvement over the FIC battered-eats. However, many students loyal to FIC have been disappointed with Atwater. Criticized as being too Ross-like, the atmosphere is anything but intimate. Atwater does not have a backroom, hidden nooks or any real sense of privacy.

Many people loved FIC because it was endearingly ugly. The architecture was so far beyond reason and the décor (including a Beirut table-sized painting of a panther standing on a lopsided, contorted earth) so alarming that many could not help but feel a strange enjoyment when eating there. Many argue that Atwater is ugly — but it is still up in the air whether or not these students will ever find it in their hearts to conceive the building as endearing.

After trying out the three dining halls on campus, first-year Feb Mike Stafanik concluded that compared to Proctor and Ross, “Atwater is set-up horribly.” Considering that most students get drinks after their food, it seems unnatural that the drink machines are stationed next the trays and silverware. Because of this, the line from the trays to the first food station can obstruct the path to the drink machines and the bussing carrousel. Like Ross, different courses are offered at different stations, which can make the process of putting food and drinks on your tray more confusing than necessary. Biette explained that these imperfections are the result of the dining hall’s late opening. “I would have liked it had the building been completed as scheduled in August. I wish that we had had the trial time to test out the kinks and fix them. We didn’t get that orchestration time.” These kinks include a lack of hot water that required replacing the faucets, and the purchase glass cups instead of plastic ones, requiring ugly dishcarts instead of the more attractive baskets that had been picked out.

Nonetheless, students have appreciated the quality of the atmosphere, such as Chris Heinrich '07 who said, “It was a nice atmosphere. I was really relaxed there and wound up spending a good chunk of my Sunday there. Sandra Sokoloski '07 also commented, “It [is] classy and casual at the same time and you don’t feel cramped or overwhelmed.”

So far the food — also considered Ross-like — has pleased most students. For a small dining hall, the variety has been more than adequate. To the favor of health-conscious students (and to the chagrin of others), the food is much less greasy than it was in FIC. However, Atwater lacks a unique fallback dish. Ross has pizza by the slice, Proctor has the panini, FIC used to have bagged lunches, but Atwater has nothing comparable. If the menu does not offer anything appealing, one may feel stuck with the salad bar. Of course, Atwater has only been open for a week, so the dining experience is still a work in progress at this point.

Some students have found solace in unexpected aspects. Concerning opening week decorum, Cole Dovey '06 remarked, “Really the best part about the new dining hall is the constant presence of Dining Services director, Matthew Biette. I feel better about eating the food. It’s like he’s given it his seal of approval.”

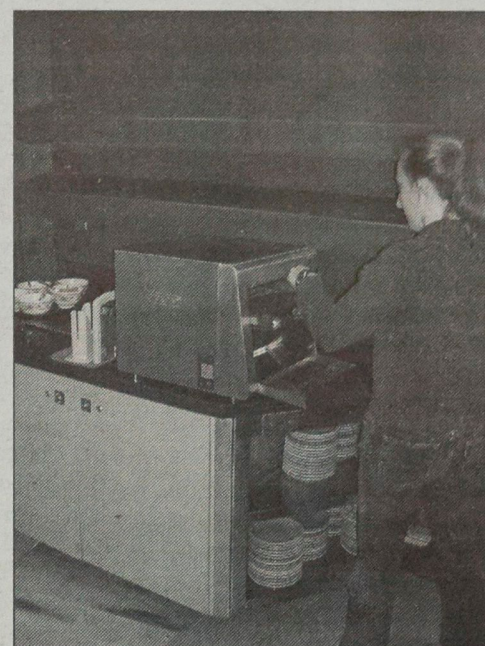
Most Middlebury students are loyal to a single dining hall — only one can truly feel like home turf. Proctor pride and Freeman pride have been common phenomena. As FIC and Hamlin closed, it feels like the end of an era. Alfonso Maraver '05 laments, “I know of no other buildings on campus that had such a large and dedicated cult following as FIC and Hamlin. The sterile, impersonal, and institutional quality of both the new library and the Atwater dining facility will never stir such strong sentiments.”

Perhaps Atwater — despite its “sterility” — will earn the student loyalty in the future. If anything indicates that Atwater dining pride is in the future, one needs only to look out the new dining hall’s window to see the giant lettering stepped into the powder on the tennis courts: “Ross sucks.” It says nothing about Atwater, but the preference is implied.

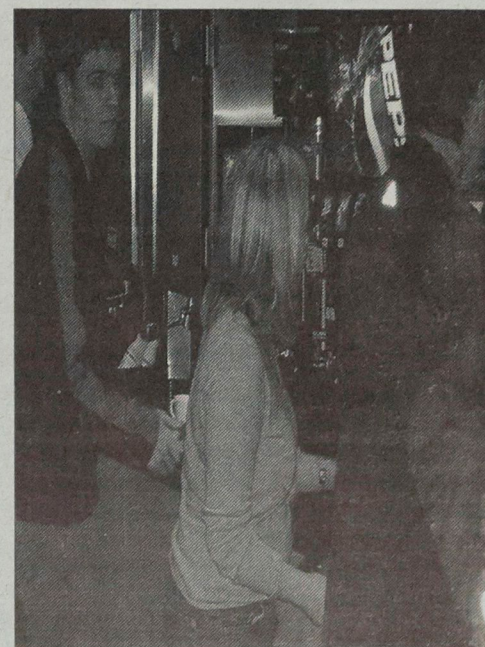
## Yucky



These tall tables were a cute idea. We only wish the manufacturer knew how to measure for chairs that fit comfortably under the table. Just looking at other diners hunched over these tables is enough to make our backs hurt.



Oops! Forgot to make space to squeeze a toaster under that shelf. Luckily, this problem can be fixed, but for now be prepared to be that awkward person tripping other diners while you try to make toast at this ill-placed machine.



If you have already been to Atwater you have probably been spilled on at the drink machines where diners with no place to rest their trays are toppling glasses of cranberry juice left and right.



## arts

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**JAZZ RETURNS**  
 DICK FORMAN AND  
 HIS BAND SWING INTO  
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**23**  
**"I AM CHARLOTTE  
 SIMMONS"**  
 WOLFE PROVIDES  
 INSIGHT INTO A  
 GENERATION

# 'Vaginas' liberated during annual McCullough V-Day performance

By Lauren Smith  
 ARTS EDITOR

Valentine's Day is regarded by many as a senseless holiday, a gimmick created by Hallmark to make a few more bucks. Middlebury students, however, are using the holiday in a positive way — to support the non-profit group Women's Safe and to promote a discussion of issues surrounding women on campus and around the globe. "The Vagina Monologues," an award-winning play by women's rights pioneer and Middlebury College alumna Eve Ensler '75, was performed as part of this "V-Day" celebration in McCullough Student Center on Feb. 14 to an enthusiastic crowd.

Ensler wrote "The Vagina Monologues" as a way of relating to a large audience the often taboo issues in women's lives — issues ranging from the stupidity of thong underwear to incest and rape. The response from women — and men — around the globe led Ensler to create "V-Day" in 1998. The "V" in V-Day stands for Victory, Valentine and Vagina. The non-profit organization is dedicated to ending violence against women around the globe. It has spread to over 300 college campuses, leading many schools to sponsor a performance of Ensler's play on Valentine's Day as a move to raise awareness towards the issue of violence against women.

Middlebury students have performed the play on Valentine's Day to large crowds for several years. This year the profits from ticket sales and a silent auction of student and local artwork that also took place on Feb. 14 will be donated to Women's Safe — a non-profit organization dedicated to ending domestic violence.

The play, directed by Rebecca Kanengiser '05.5 and Eliza Hulme '05, is based on interviews Ensler conducted with over 200 women about their memories and experiences of sexuality. The play explores women's deepest fears about sex and often their deepest fantasies as well.

Moving from a hilarious interview with a 72-year-old woman recounting her first orgasm to a Bosnian woman telling a terrifying story of war and rape, the play portrays the trials and the joys of being a woman and of having a vagina.

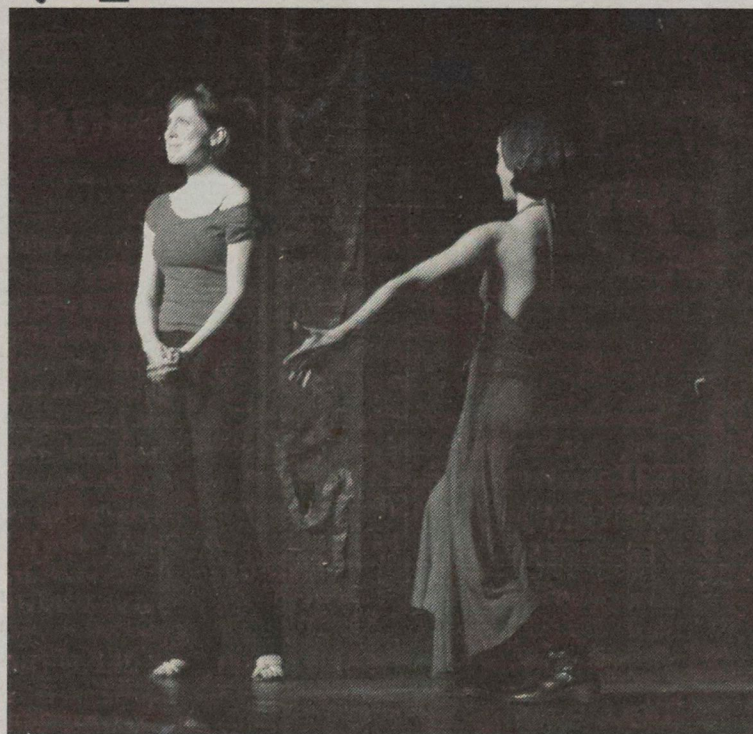
Kanengiser has been involved with the play for several years but this is the first year she has acted in and directed the play. Kanengiser, along with Hulme and the 20 or so other actors who performed, have been preparing since the beginning of Winter Term.

"I think that the beauty in the Vagina Monologues [is that] they do not get old, or boring, even if you have seen them several times," Kanengiser said. "They do not just represent one or two women in the world — they represent all of us. They force us to redefine ourselves as women and to unify by our common experiences."

Kanengiser continued, "I do think women's issues are incredibly important and relevant on this campus. I firmly believe that celebratory fundraisers such as 'The Vagina Monologues' are great ways to open up the eyes of the campus to such issues."

Luke Strauss '07, when asked to provide an opinion of the play from a male's perspective, simply said, "That rocked!" Obviously, males and females alike agreed with him as both performances of the play were crowded with many students forced to stand along the back wall of McCullough to enjoy the performance.

Ensler, when asked why she chose vaginas as the theme of her play and not breasts or childbirth or some other women-only experience replied, "I was drawn to vaginas because of my own personal history, because of sexuality, because women's empowerment is deeply connected to their sexuality. And, I'm obsessed with women being violated and raped, and with incest. All of these things are deeply connected to our vaginas."



TOP: Meghan Nesmith '06 and Retta Leaphart '06 perform the "Angry Vagina" monologue in which they furiously address mistreatment of vaginas. BOTTOM: The ensemble expressed various women's feelings towards their vaginas in several group performances that were interspersed with the monologues. The group performances gave voice to the different opinions of the many women that Ensler interviewed during her research.



"Vagina Monologues" performers engage in heated discussion about embarrassing adolescent moments in "When I Was Twelve."

Ari Joseph





Ari Joseph

Dick Forman and company jam with enthusiasm and energy for eager audiences on Saturday night. The jazz group played a combination of old favorites and new grooves for a night of fun and music appreciation.

## Dick Forman Jazz Group warms up the winter night

By Kate McKendy  
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday night, the Dick Forman Jazz Group spiced up the Center for the Arts (CFA) concert hall with their Cajun-flavored jazz and blues in their annual winter performance.

Before the lights dimmed, Dick Forman himself, the former head of the CFA and a current member of Middlebury College's Applied Music faculty, mingled with audience members in a manner as casual as the music to follow.

With Don Stearns on saxophone, guest performer Paul Asbell on guitar, Jim Daggs on bass, Steve Wienert on drums and Forman on piano, the band began the musical evening by making their introductions not through words, but through a string of solos hinting at what the evening ahead had to offer. Asbell is also a former member of the Middlebury College Applied Music faculty.

Among the many tunes that they played were "It's You Or No One" by Julie Stein and a version of "Rhythmning" by Thelonious Monk, which was inspired by the syncopations and rhythm changes of Gershwin's "I Got Rhythm." They also played "Catalonian Nights" by Dexter Gordon for the second year

in a row, claiming that they just could not think of a better song to play. Overall, the group paid tribute to many of the classic American jazz songs that defined the jazz era.

Between songs, Forman chatted with the audience and even challenged audience members to name Duke Ellington songs, teasing them when they were not able to "name that tune." Overall, Forman kept both the music and the atmosphere casual and social in typical jazz style.

He also seemed to believe that the audience was made up mostly of people under the age of 40. Playing on that idea, he quoted James Carter, whom he had recently seen perform at the Flynn Theater in Burlington, and challenged the audience once again — "I'll bet you that you don't know what this song is; and on the remote chance that you do, I'll bet you that you don't know who wrote it."

While the group did not pay direct tribute to the upcoming Valentine's Day, Forman acknowledged it by slipping a few bars of "My Funny Valentine" into a captivating duet played with bassist Jim Daggs.

"The thing I like about jazz is that when they don't sing, the song itself sings to you," said Derick Okwan-Duodu '05, who enjoyed the performance. "It's all about how you feel it."



Ari Joseph

The jazz group infuses the CFA with creative love, as soulful guitar riffs, smooth saxophone sounds and jazzy piano melodies play elegantly against the backdrop of perfectly concocted drum beats.

## BLOWIN' INDIE WIND

BY RICHARD LAWLESS



THE ARTIST | SLINT

THE ALBUM | SPIDERLAND

RELEASE DATE | 1991

'SPIDERLAND' WILL BE FEATURED ON WRMC'S "ALBUM OF THE WEEK" THIS SUNDAY AT 9 P.M.

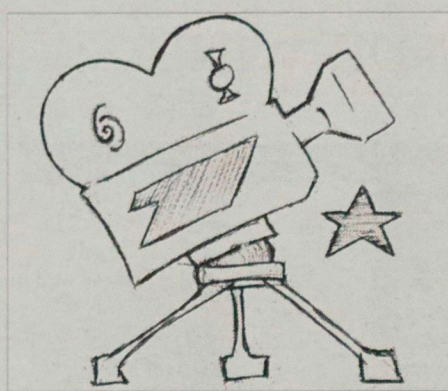
If you read my column regularly you'll recall that I mentioned a band called Slint in my article on Talk Talk's final album when I was explaining the sub-genre of post-rock. Both groups released their seminal albums in 1991, and though they were notably different, they both became the pioneering and patriarchal albums of the post-rock canon. While Talk Talk moved in the direction of blending rock with jazz and minimalist symphonic orchestrations, Slint moved in the opposite direction aurally, exploring the abrasive and dynamic depths of the guitar.

After a 15 year hiatus, Slint reformed this year for a handful of shows scattered throughout the country, allowing a new generation of rock aficionados who have only heard about this legendary band a chance to see them. Naturally, I'm one of these people who was much too young to even know who Slint was at its peak in 1991, but since getting into indie rock I've heard their name mentioned thousands of times. It's true that more people name-drop Slint than actually listen to them, and more people know their infamous album cover rather than their music. This is because "Spiderland" isn't a particularly pleasant album to listen to. In fact, it's probably one of the most tortured pieces of work in my album collection. While Slint certainly isn't the first band to experiment with feedback and abrasive guitar work, they lack the melody of other bands who have made their name on guitar squalls, like Sonic Youth. But this isn't because Slint lacks an intrinsic sense of melody. No, I believe the a-melodic nature of "Spiderland" is a deliberate attempt to thwart any and all melodic guitar rock that came before it, acting more as a statement than anything else. This may be why, in a nutshell, most people don't pop in "Spiderland" for fun. But make no mistake, the album is an invigorating and unforgettable listen.

"Spiderland" is the aural equivalent of a horror film — it will frighten you and chill you to the bone. It's also an incredibly enigmatic album, acting as a precursor for mystical, creepy singer/songwriters like Will Oldham and faceless post-rock bands like Tortoise (both of whom Slint's members went on to work with/be in). It has a quiet pull, due in large part to their unforgettable and oft-parodied album cover of four young heads popping out of a creek, somewhere in rural America, with no band name or album title in sight. The album's half-step minor key progressions and melodramatic dynamics make this album absolutely crackle with tension. The opening track, "Breadcrumb Trail," begins with a repeated muted guitar riff that almost sounds like a snippet of one of those irritating extended doorbell rings that one of your aunts probably has. This is undercut by a lower, more chiming guitar riff, followed by a plodding drumbeat in a strange time signature. The singer begins quietly narrating an account of himself finding a tent with a fortune teller, and then subsequently explodes into a mess of guitar feedback, crashing cymbals and a-melodic screaming. The rest of "Spiderland" is just as exciting and dramatic. The second track, "Nosferatu," creeps along with a sinister guitar riff and a malicious, steady rhythm. Screeching guitars are balanced by singer Brian McMahan's eerie, morbid narration of a vampire-like creature that lives in a castle and murders his wife. Hey, I told you it wasn't a pleasant listen.

The most haunting, disturbing track of all is the album's final one, "Good Morning, Captain." Beginning with a chiming, ominous, minimalist guitar riff that slowly alternates between two notes, the drums propel the track forward as McMahan's trademark creepy narrative unfolds. He saves the most disturbing story for last, telling a cryptic tale of a shipwreck — "Let me in, the voice cried softly, / From outside the wooden door. / Scattered remnants of the ship could be seen in the distance, / Blood stained the icy wall of the shore." Churning and building tension for seven minutes, the song finally explodes into chaos, with buzzsaw guitars slicing through McMahan's agonizing screams of "I miss you." Then it suddenly ends, and you're sitting there with a chill running up and down your spine. Or, you're angry that you just wasted 45 minutes of listening to pretentious bullshit from a bunch of kids in Kentucky. The point is that you have to let "Spiderland" work on you in order for you to really appreciate it. And if you do, you're going to be scared out of your mind.





## THE REEL CRITIC

BY STEPHANIE DOSCH

**MOVIE | MILLION DOLLAR BABY**  
**DIRECTOR | CLINT EASTWOOD**  
**STARRING | HILARY SWANK,**  
**CLINT EASTWOOD, MORGAN**  
**FREEMAN**

If there is such a thing as an anti-fan, that is how I would describe my feelings about boxing. I guess there's something about the fist-to-face contact that makes it really hard for me to watch. Needless to say, there were several scenes in "Million Dollar Baby" that caused me to squirm... and yet, I couldn't take my eyes off of it.

Clint Eastwood directs and stars as Frankie Dunn, a devout Catholic, professional boxing trainer and owner of the Hit Pit, a dingy boxing gym in the heart of Los Angeles. Estranged from his daughter and disillusioned with the Church (though he attends mass every day), Frankie focuses on boxing to fill the void. But he doesn't train girls.

Eddie, Frankie's longtime friend played by Morgan Freeman, narrates the story. Eddie lives and breathes the Hit Pit, where he is both caretaker and resident. A former boxer himself, Eddie has his own painful memories, and has no problem telling Frankie when he's being pig-headed.

Frankie's number one rule is to protect yourself at all costs, but his tendency to overprotect his fighters causes many of them to leave him. So when his number-one fighter finds a new manager, Frankie breaks down and agrees to train Maggie Fitzgerald (Hilary Swank), a dirt-poor waitress from the Ozarks whose only happiness is found in boxing. "People seen me fight say I'm pretty tough," Maggie tells him. Frankie's response: "Girlie, tough ain't enough."

Maggie turns out to be more than tough, and despite her late start in the boxing world, she dominates the ring. It's clear that Frankie comes to regard her as a surrogate daughter, but she's such a good fighter that he takes risks with her in spite of himself, moving her up in class and eventually agreeing to let her fight for the title.

Swank delivers a powerful and truly stunning performance as Maggie, but Eastwood's directorial work in "Million Dollar Baby" is perhaps better than his acting (which is excellent as well). At times, the boxing matches seem far less brutal than the real life the characters face. While the bright lights of the ring underscore Maggie's glory, dim lighting and dark shadows echo the boxing world's dark underbelly, highlight the characters' emotional turmoil, and foreshadow what is to come.

Based on a short story from F.X. Toole's collection *Rope Burns*, "Million Dollar Baby" has received a lot of press for the controversial issues it raises. Writing any more would spoil the plot, but suffice it to say that the movie is extremely thought-provoking, as evidenced by Frankie's own inner conflict at the decision he faces. The film may be fierce and harsh, like the sport it portrays, but it is also just as gripping.

"Million Dollar Baby" is playing at Majestic 10 in Williston, Essex Outlet Cinemas in Essex Junction, and Plaza Movieplex in Rutland.

# Vienna Trio Rocks the House

By Susan Goehring

STAFF WRITER

The Vienna Piano Trio performed a seamless show for the Middlebury College community on Friday, Feb. 11, in the concert hall at the Center for the Arts (CFA). The nighttime program was held in front of a virtually sold-out audience, which was as diverse as the College community spectrum, with older couples, students and young children all in attendance.

Cellist Matthias Gredler, pianist Stefan Mendl and violinist Wolfgang Redik collectively make up the featured classical music group, the Vienna Piano Trio. The group was established in 1988 by Redik, Mendl and Marcus Trefny, the Trio's original cellist. In the past, the Vienna Piano Trio has been under the tutelage of the Haydn Trio-Vienna, LaSalle and Guarneri musical quartets, in addition to the Trio di Trieste.

The Trio performed two pieces on Friday night. Appropriately, both masterpieces were by composers with ties to the city of Vienna. The first, "Piano Trio No.7 in B-flat Major, the Archduke" was written by Beethoven, and the second, entitled "Piano Trio No.1 in

B-flat Major," was written by Schubert.

While exiting the hall for the designated intermission period, audience members seemed both excited and awed by the astonishingly complete balance that the musicians

**"...audience members seemed both excited and awed by the astonishingly complete balance that the musicians were able to create."**

were able to create, despite their instrumental differences. One audience member commented on the "amazingly delicate touch" of violinist Redik and the pleasingly "aggressive" piano playing of Mendl.

Stanley Sadie of *Gramophone*, a classical music magazine, remarked in one article

about the Vienna Piano Trio that the "players seem to think and breathe as one." This observation was evident while watching the Trio perform live at the CFA. Positioned in a triangular formation, the three musicians took their cues from one another through careful observation of body language and movement, in addition to rhythmical analysis of the music. As the Trio performed both the Beethoven and the Schubert, the notes transformed the three men into one entity such that they were swaying and singing as if participating in a beautiful and intricate dance.

Past performances of the Vienna Piano Trio include venues throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand and Japan. They have participated in many prestigious music festivals such as The Festival International Lanaudiere, the Beethovenfest Bonn and the Ottawa Chamber Music Festival.

Upcoming appearances for the Vienna Piano Trio are scheduled in Los Angeles, Vancouver and Bogotá. For more information on the players, their 11 albums or for concert schedules, visit their Web site at [www.vienanapianotrio.com](http://www.vienanapianotrio.com).



Nirvana Bhatia

Musicians of the Vienna Piano Trio prepare to play a second musical number — a composition by Schubert — for a packed audience on Friday night. The group started off the evening with a piece by Beethoven that showcased the cello, violin and piano.

## WATCH THIS SPACE

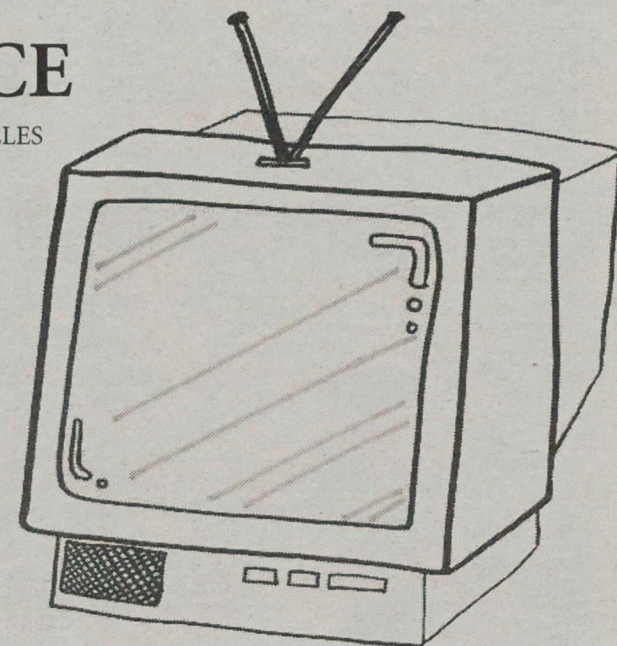
— BY SHEILA SELES

For as much as we make fun of Canada, our neighbors to the north have produced some quality television. From "SCTV" to "The Kids in the Hall" to "You Can't Do that on Television" to "Degrassi Junior High," Canadian shows that make the trip south of the border are often funnier and edgier than the typical American fare. Maybe it's time for us Americans to accept that we're just "Shatner-Stealing-Mexico-Touchers" (one of my favorite lines from the always insightful "Simpsons") and tune into some fine Canadian television. A good place to start is the return of "Degrassi: The Next Generation," which returns to Nickelodeon's The N network Friday at 8 p.m.

For anyone who isn't familiar with The N, it's Nickelodeon's nighttime network aimed at teenagers. During the day, the station functions as Noggin, which airs pre-school entertainment like "Blue's Clues" and "Dora the Explorer." But at 6 p.m., the station becomes The N. Along with "Degrassi: The Next Generation," The N airs such perennial favorites as "Daria," "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air" and "Moesha."

"Degrassi: The Next Generation" doesn't bear much resemblance to the syndicated American shows The N runs. "Degrassi" is a forward-thinking and almost realistic soap opera about teenagers at Degrassi Community School in Toronto. One of my favorite things about Degrassi is that the actors are actually playing their own age. The show follows kids from as young as seventh grade, and we're privy to all the awkward pubescent angst we would expect from real junior high and high school students — their voices change, their bodies change and they wear awkward clothing. Degrassi more resembles my high school experience than the perfectly coiffed and styled 20-somethings posing as high school students on "The O.C."

Perhaps its realism is why I enjoy "Degrassi," even though I'm older than the targeted demographic. The kids on the show deal with the perils of being a teenager and the genius of the show lies in its variety of scope. The trivial, which is not so trivial to teenagers, exists right next to bigger issues. One episode centers



around an election for school president, another minor plot line focuses on an adolescent boy's need for deodorant and in the final episodes of the last season, Degrassi experiences a school shooting and explores the ways this violence reverberates through the community. Some of Degrassi's story lines get more dramatic than the banalities of typical high school life, but these young actors work hard to make every event important and all-consuming in a way that perfectly encompasses being a teen. "Degrassi" is not "Saved by the Bell" or any of its subsequent incarnations. Instead, "Degrassi: The Next Generation" joins the ranks of such wonderfully crafted high school shows as "My So-Called Life" and "Freaks and Geeks." Like these programs, "Degrassi" speaks with an authentic adolescent voice.

The N will be running the last four episodes of the fourth season of "Degrassi" over the next four weeks. We pick up with the characters after the school shooting. One character is in the hospital with a bullet wound and the other characters are feeling the strain that this tragedy has put on their relationships. Tune in. Americans and American networks should sit up and take note of this gem from the Great White North.



# College take on 'I Am Charlotte Simmons'

Tom Wolfe's new book: a work of fiction or a real-life look at college coeds?

By Lauren Smith  
ARTS EDITOR

Tom Wolfe's recent novel, "I Am Charlotte Simmons," has been highly publicized as a novel about "contemporary college life." Critics are hailing the fictional tale as an accurate depiction of a generation consumed by nonstop drinking and widespread casual sex. Though the characters are exaggerated and stereotyped at times, the exaggerations serve to make his point even clearer. Overall, Wolfe gives a frighteningly accurate portrayal of college life.

Dupont University in Chester, Penn. is the setting in which the novel takes place. From the first page, Wolfe portrays the campus as a sex-crazed, sports-obsessed playground for spoiled 20-year-olds. There appears to be no moral high ground, no genuine concern for others and absolutely no sobriety on the sprawling university's grounds. Enter Charlotte Simmons, a rather naïve girl from a small Appalachian town in North Carolina. Charlotte has come to the elite, *U.S. News and World Report* chart-topping Dupont University thinking she will be immerse in an intellectually stimulating environment — the type of place she did not believe she could find in North Carolina's public universities. She is dismayed to discover a campus peopled by rich, horny frat boys, image-obsessed private school

girls and brainless jocks who got into Dupont University for reasons other than SAT scores or community service. "I Am Charlotte Simmons" tells of Charlotte's struggle to maintain her innocence and her sense of self-worth as she encounters the daily struggles of life in a modern university.

Wolfe, who was educated at Washington and Lee and at Yale in the 1950s, has been a best-selling author since the publication of several essays and a non-fiction book, "The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test," on Ken Kesey and the Sixties generation. Now Wolfe has produced another book on the behavior of a generation — the tail end of a generation often referred to as Generation X. How accurate can his depiction of this generation often labeled as cynical or apathetic be? Can a 74-year-old man such as Wolfe really "get" what is happening on today's college campuses?

And when asking, "What exactly is happening on college campuses?" do we — the citizens of these expansive shrines to education — even understand it ourselves? Wolfe attempts in his novel to explain us to ourselves, and I think he succeeds. He provides insight into a generation he deems immoral and spoiled. Wolfe also provides a record for generations to come of the millennial generation of college students. Sadly, it seems that our generation will be

remembered for the things Wolfe explores in his book, just as the 60s generation that he has also investigated was remembered for its political upheaval and Woodstock.

Wolfe reportedly researched his novel on several well-known campuses such as the University of Michigan and UNC at Chapel Hill. However, he may well have come to any Middlebury social house gathering and done some research for the description of a frat party in the novel accurately depicts many Saturday nights here at Middlebury College. Or he could have listened to "conversations" between Middlebury students and found our eloquent vocabulary, which he refers to as "F\*\*k Patois" in the novel, appropriate for his fictional story. Next time you are in the dining hall, listen to the group hunched over their trays next to you and you will know what he means.

Unfortunately, Wolfe's novel is more non-fiction than tall-tale. Any current college student reading the novel will be surprised by the accuracy of Wolfe's vocabulary and his descriptions of "the walk of shame," beer binges and the infamous experience of being "sexiled." Wolfe perfectly depicts the phenomenon of "hooking up" as well as the amazing ability of straight A students to down five shots of Smirnoff on Thursday night and be in class on Friday morning.

The 688-page novel, published

by Farrar, Straus and Giroux, moves quickly and is constantly entertaining. Wolfe covers all the emotional highs and lows of a girl new to college life in a mostly believable voice, moving from awkward yet hilarious encounters in the gym to sad, ashamed Sunday mornings in the dorm. Yet for all its entertainment value, it is difficult to read the

novel without becoming slightly disconcerted by the accuracy of his portrayal. Obviously, Wolfe is making a much larger statement with his story of Dupont University and Charlotte Simmons. Though it might make us squirm in our seats and deny that any of it is true, denial is often the first reaction to a difficult truth.



## The Middlebury Campus

invites those interested in writing and photography to attend an informational session on Thursday, Feb. 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the Gifford classroom.

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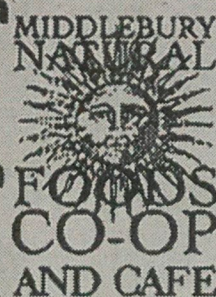
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# Indoor track runs strong in final races

## Panthers turn impressive performance in Ma.

By Zamir Ahmed  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Middlebury indoor track teams took to the road last week, traveling to Massachusetts to participate in the final meet of the regular-season, the non-scoring Tufts Stampede. The meet was the last chance for athletes to qualify for end-of-the-year championships, and with much pressure riding on their shoulders several Panthers turned in impressive performances.

In a meet of filled with numerous personal and season-best performances, first-year Jimmy Butcher had perhaps the most impressive mark. Butcher turned in a school-record time of 8:54.94 in the 3000m, finishing second in the race and qualifying for the Division III New England Championships and the ECAC Championships.

Other Panther men who delivered strong showings included Kevin Bright '06, whose win in the 400m and third-place finish in the 200m qualified him for the Division III Championships in both events, and first-year Patrick Swan, who won the 600m in a personal season-best time of 1:24.33. The Middlebury 4x400m relay team of Bright, Swan, Dave

LaRocca '08, and Matt Malek '06 also continued to perform well, winning the event by over six seconds.

The women's team also had a number of athletes turn in championship-qualifying marks. Captain Alli Williams '05 was the Panthers' lone winner, taking the 600m in 1:40.90 and edging out the women's other captain Melissa Thacker '05, who took second in the race. Both women's times were good enough to qualify for the ECAC Championships.

There were a number of other top-three finishes for the women. Most notably were first-year Heather Bessette finishing second in the triple jump, qualifying for the Division III Championships with a leap of 34 feet, and Erin Oliver '07 finishing second in the 55m hurdles in a time of 9.15 seconds, which was good enough to qualify for the Open New England Championship. Pole-vaulters Sarah Berkowitz '05 and Sarah Wilson '08 both had strong meets, with each clearing 9 feet-7 inches to qualify for the Division III Championships.

"People are starting to peak at the right time," said Coach Martin Beatty of the impressive performance turned in by the Panthers. "It's good to see times dropping and marks in the field events going up."

**People are starting to peak at the right time and it's good to see times dropping and marks in the field events going up.**

**— Coach Martin Beatty**

The Panthers are optimistic that the meet at Tufts is a sign that the team is ready for the postseason.

"I'd like to see us perform well as a team," said Beatty. "We tend to yield better results in the outdoor season, but I'm hopeful that with the way things have happened this year we can do well and score some points at these championships."

While most of the team is done for the indoor season, a number of Panthers now will compete in the Division III New England Championships, held Feb. 18th-19th. The women's meet will be held at Smith College while the men's meet will be held at Tufts University.

# Skiers shine on at the Dartmouth Carnival

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

moved up 10 places in the afternoon run on the strength of the fifth-fastest time.

In the slalom, it was Reed leading the men's team to their second slalom victory of the season with a solid fifth place effort, just four-tenths of a second behind co-winners Johnny Davidson of UVM and David Chodounsky of Dartmouth. Sophomore Andrew Everett proved himself to be a major player on the carnival circuit, backing up his stellar results from a week ago with a sixth place finish, while Rusten landed another top at eighth.

"We had some great performances this weekend," noted Carey. "We finished only a few points behind UVM on the alpine side, so I am very happy with that."

Due to adverse snow conditions on the cross-country trails in Hanover, the nordic teams headed back to Stowe where they competed the previous week at the UVM Carnival.

Coming off two grueling distance races at the UVM Carnival, the Panther men and women struggled to keep up the momentum they had built over the first few weeks of the season, placing fourth in both the men's and women's classic events, and third in the 4x5 km mixed relay.

Garrott Kuzzy '06 paced the men with a ninth place finish in the 10 km classic, followed by Beau Baldock '07 in 12th, Bryce Roche '05 in 21st and Dan Skold '07 in 23rd. UVM's Lowell Bailey and Ethan Foster finished first and second, continuing their incredible streak of reaching the podium in every start this season.

On the women's side, sophomore Evelyn ... as the top Pan-



Courtesy

The Panthers keep up with the competition at Stowe, placing fourth in both the men's and women's classic events,

ther once again as she claimed 11th place in the 5 km classic, exactly two minutes behind Dartmouth's Alison Crocker who blew away the field by almost a minute en route to her third consecutive victory.

Senior co-captain Tyne Pike-Sprenger was second for the Panthers in 18th, while Jenny Jorvig '06 was close behind in 19th. Liz Torkelson '07, Erin Pittenger '07 and Taylor Leach '06 came in 21st, 26th and 28th, respectively.

Saturday's 4 x 5 km mixed re-

lay format consisted of three teams from each school, each with two male and two female skiers with the top two teams from each school earning points.

Middlebury's top team combined the forces of Baldock, Jorvig, Kuzzy and Dong. Baldock led with a strong opening leg, while Kuzzy skied third and turned in the fastest leg of the day in 15:04.9 to lead the Panthers into fourth place.

Next was the team of Jake Whitcomb '06, Leach, Skold and

Pittenger who scored for the Panthers in 13th. Relay teams from Dartmouth claimed first and third, while UVM's top team took second.

Acknowledging Dartmouth's excellent mixed relay result, nordic head coach Terry Aldrich said, "Dartmouth really gets up for their carnival and tends to peak at this point of the season."

Aldrich continued, "From a performance standpoint, I think it's easy to get tired after the tough

races we had at the UVM Carnival the previous weekend. The Williams course is not as challenging or demanding as Stowe, so I think we'll rebound as we start to build momentum heading into our home carnival the following week."

Junior co-captain Whitcomb is optimistic for next week's skate sprints, noting that, "The team will get fired up for the change of pace. We just have to stay physically and mentally in the game and we should perform well."

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## Column as I see 'em

BY JEFF PATTERSON

FOO stands for February Outdoor Orientation in the same way that every baseball fan stands for the national anthem. Both involve tradition. For the past 11 years, Feb first-years have left campus to set-up camp on the first weekend of second semester.

Instead of sleeping in on Saturday, skiers and snowshoers woke up before seven a.m. and ate breakfast before they climbed-up the steps of school buses. Instead of watching cartoons, we rode in a car-like vehicle, and sang tunes of songs ranging from "Home On The Range" to "Take Me Home, Country Roads."

The acronym, FOO, brings to mind several words that use these same three letters as their prefix. When one FOO participant was asked if he had ever camped out in the snow before, he said, "Never intentionally." Over the weekend FOOers were not foolhardy, and did not try to be brave by looking for danger, like Simba did by bringing Nala to the elephant graveyard. My group, which snowshoed up the backside of the Snow Bowl (arguably one of the safest areas save the Nnew library thanks to all the ski patrol nearby) wisely turned back when darkness approached and our desired destination was out of reach.

Food contains FOO, just like it does protein, sodium and carbohydrates. Without the luxury of Dining Services, snacks like Fig Newtons, Good 'Ol Raisins And Peanuts, bagels and Snickers bars held us over. Over a fire, we cooked a simple dinner of rice, beans and cheese. For the most part, everyone was full from a delicious Friday Dolci dinner that included a four-course meal with Gumbo Ya Ya and a Bananas Foster dessert. Ya Ya, these FOOers were not treated like neglected foster-children.

Foolscaps are notorious for lazy students, but FOOers didn't have to wear them. All of the campers had less time to complete their assignments, and since they spent the weekend hiking it would be difficult to call them lazy. Those who brought cameras with them now have excellent footage of their adventure. In the woods, we saw footprints of deer on the foothills while we walked on footpaths, which was not a bunch of footslog, thanks to the foot of snow we got on Thursday. No FOOer footled, as every minute was treated preciously. Eventually, when everyone mastered the necessary snowshoeing foot-work, no one footled in the snow.

Many people on the trip could have complained about being cold or tired, but far and away, every FOOer never made a footfaraw.

Please take your hats off in order to recognize the work Lauren Markham '05, the FOO coordinator, and all of the other FOO leaders did. Their foolproof organizational skills and knowledge of the outdoors allowed the entire weekend to run as smoothly as Secretariat.

# Men's hoops tourney bid falls short

## Hardwood squad drops last three games to end campaign



Sixiao Huo

Sophomore gaurd Chris Dowd looks to set up the Panther offense against a tough Colby team in weekend play.

By Eri Nosaka

STAFF WRITER

After a long week full of anticipation, the men's basketball team lost to Plattsburgh, Bowdoin and Colby, forfeiting their chances of going to the NESCAC playoffs next week. The overall team record was 6-18 and their NESCAC record ended at 1-8.

On Feb. 8 the men's basketball team played at Plattsburgh and lost with a score of 77-64. The Cardinals took an early lead at the half and led

46-25.

However, the Panthers showed signs of improvement by closing the 21-point gap to 12 points at one point. Bobby Marcoux '07 led the team by scoring 13 points, Mike Salek '05 helped with 11 points and Evan Thompson '07 contributed with 10 points.

The notable game of this week was against Bowdoin College on Feb 11. Bowdoin led by 6 points at the half but then Clark Read '05 scored

to make it 72 with 10 seconds left of the game. Bowdoin then quickly scored with a lucky shot with two seconds left of the game. The final score was 74-72.

Notable players were Read with 16 points, Salek with 12 points, Simon Behan '05 and Adam Sinoway '05 each contributed with 10 points.

The last game for seniors Sinoway, Behan, Steve Vento, Salek and Read was on Feb. 12 against Colby College. The Mules led by 30 points

at the half however the Panthers closed the gap with 17 points at the final. The final score was 83-66.

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| Middlebury | 72 |
| Bowdoin    | 74 |

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| Middlebury | 84 |
| Colby      | 66 |

Although some may view the men's basketball team as having an unsuccessful season, others would view it as a year of learning. This year the team worked on endurance and defense and made strong improvements by the end of the season. Where the team constantly excelled was in the area of morale.

"Unfortunately our wins and losses didn't go as well as we wanted, but our staying together on the court and off the court was our major accomplishment. However, I think that has to be your goal regardless of if you are a good team or not. It was a pleasure playing with the guys. We are friends off and on the court. I have had some great memories with the guys — going on road trips and playing at home. Being a part of the team was big part of our college life. When we look back a lot of our fondest memories will be playing for the Middlebury basketball team," said Salek.

There is no doubt that this senior class has left its mark in the history of Middlebury men's basketball.

# Skaters notch 1-1 weekend record

By Ana Christina Furney

STAFF WRITER

Conference play is always tough in New England. With every team in the NESCAC making their last ditch efforts to better their position in the standings, there is no such thing as an easy game.

The opposition that came knocking at Kenyon Arena's doors this weekend were the Mules of Colby and the Polar Bears of Bowdoin.

After all was said and done, Middlebury's title hopes were left damaged but not destroyed. Bill Mandigo became the all-time winningest coach in NCAA women's hockey history after a 5-3 win against Colby on Saturday night and saw his girls stand strong while defending their number one ranking in the polls of Division Three women's hockey teams.

### WOMEN'S HOCKEY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Middlebury | 5 |
| Colby      | 3 |

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Middlebury | 2 |
| Bowdoin    | 5 |

The 5-3 result is not a fair indication of the game's action. In a contest that was undoubtedly controlled by the Panther attack force, the Mules came away with three breakaway goals where Middlebury was simply caught off guard. With an endless onslaught of offensive bids pounding against the Colby defense, it is only fair to give the Mules deserved credit for only allowing five Panther pucks to find the back of the net.

Although Middlebury passed



Julia Randall

Sophomore Ellen Sargent stands her ground as she battles for a loose puck against a baffled Hamilton forward.

the puck well and distributed it evenly while showing off their patience on offense, there were many moments when shots would have been preferred. Lorna Giffis '05 stepped up to the proverbial plate for the Panthers on Saturday night by knocking home two goals while Emily Quizon '06 and Alison Graddock '07 contributed two assists each in the victory.

After the excitement that came from the back-to-back wins against Plattsburgh and Colby, the women's team hosted bad company while playing the always stingy Polar Bears from Bowdoin.

With rivals in town, the regular season crown on the line and sitting

atop the division three standings all adding to the pressure, there is no need to explain the excitement that a Panther win would bring.

Unfortunately, the Polar Bears had something else in mind and played the role of spoiler cutting the Panthers down in a 5-2 defeat. With the tough road win, Bowdoin all but clinched the NESCAC title and will likely host the later rounds of the NESCAC tournament in March. The loss didn't come without an admirable effort from the Panthers' side as the women outshot their visitors 31 to 13.

"The loss gives us more of an edge," said Captain Kate Kogut '05. "Getting beaten makes us want to

be that much better."

Hoping to move beyond the disappointing loss, the women's team remains primed and ready for their opposition as they roll into their final two games of the season against Utica and Elmira, the number one ranked Division III team.

"We're focusing on the Utica game right now but everyone's excited to play the number one team and show them what we have," added Kogut.

Both of the games will be held on Willimas's ice, but, barring disaster, the Panthers will likely be coming home to host the early rounds of the NESCAC championship tournament.



# Comeback effort ends in tie

## Panthers answer the challenge by netting 3 unanswered goals en route to OT thriller



Julia Randall

Senior Levi Doria looks to evade the oncoming defenseman during this weekend's conference clashes at Kenyon.

By Jason Lockhart  
STAFF WRITER

The battle between the past two NESCAC champions and finalists was no less exciting than expected. However, the roles this time were reversed. Middlebury came into the game as the underdog on Saturday, as they sat tied for second in the NESCAC standings, while Trinity came in as the favorite sitting atop the NESCAC rankings. The teams battled to a 4-4 tie as Middlebury came roaring back from three goals down to tie it late in the third. The tie clinched Trinity it's first regular season NESCAC title.

### MEN'S HOCKEY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Middlebury | 6 |
| Wesleyan   | 0 |

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Middlebury | 4 |
| Trinity    | 4 |

The game looked as if it was all but over. However, after Trinity took a 3-0 lead, discipline problems took hold of the Bantams, allowing the Panthers to climb back into the game.

"I thought we had the game under control until we took a dumb penalty compounded with another penalty," said Trinity head coach John Dunham.

Bantam's leading scorer Cameron Finch who appeared to argue with the referees about Middlebury intentionally knocking off their net while Trinity was threatening took Trinity's dumb penalty at 10:20 of the second period.

Only 48 seconds later Trinity defenseman Andris Kozlovskis was called for cross-checking giving the Panthers the break they needed. Trinity leads the league in penalty minutes per game with 23.75. On the ensuing 5 on 3 first-year Tom Maldonado slid the puck over to fellow first-year Mickey Gilchrist who fired a shot right under the crossbar on Doug Kisielius' to cut Trinity's lead to 3-1.

"I don't think I have a very good shot, so I'm always looking for someone, and usually that someone is Mickey," said Maldonado

Just 1:16 later on the power play Maldonado was at it again, drawing two players at the left point before dishing the puck to Brian Phinney '05. Phinney fired a shot that was deflected in front by Gilchrist getting the Panthers within one. Neither the Panthers nor Maldonado was done yet. With 2:56 remaining Maldonado came streaking down the left wing before he fed a perfect backhand pass to Jocko DeCarolis '07 who buried his third goal of the season.

"The thing with Maldonado is that he draws guys to him so well, and when he dishes it off we have all the time in the world to shoot," said Gilchrist. The Panthers quickly lost the momentum as Greg Camarco sprang Joseph Ori on a breakaway who made a nifty move and slid the puck through the pads of Ross Cherry '08 to give the Bantams a 4-3 lead with only 2:16 left in the second period.

Cherry replaced Yen-I Chen '06 after Chen looked shaky giving up two goals in the first period. Despite being down, the Panthers dominated play throughout the third period finally getting the equalizer with 2:58 left in the third period. Justin Gaines '08 was able to chip a puck in front of Kisielius towards the direction of the net and Gilchrist was able to jam it home for his first hat-trick of the season.

The last two periods of the game was probably some of the best hockey we played all year," explained head coach Bill Beaney. "We played with enthusiasm and intensity.

This past weekend, Beaney has been putting out units of five, and the unit of Phinney, Maldonado, Gaines, Gilchrist and Sales accounted for three goals and six assists. "We definitely came out well

as a unit. I don't think any team can handle us when we play like that," commented Gilchrist.

If Middlebury has had one problem this year, it is their failure to put away teams, and to allow opponents to crawl back into the game. The Panthers solved that problem Friday night, scoring three early goals on their way to a 6-0 victory over Wesleyan as the newly joined freshmen connection of Gilchrist and Gaines combined for three goals and two assists

After failing to score more than four goals in a game in over a month, the Panthers peppered Wesleyan's goaltender Steve Binswanger with 17 first period shots and three goals. Beaney was particularly pleased with team's goal outburst stating, "It's nice to see we scored some goals. It's been a while since we scored so many goals."

Gilchrist started off the scoring for the Panthers at 4:01 of the first period after Gaines drew two defenders to him along the right wing boards. Gaines fed Gilchrist who fired a shot over the glove of Binswanger for his tenth goal of the season.

Gilchrist helped Gaines score his fourth goal of the game by throwing the puck on net at 3:11 of the third period. Gaines picked up the loose puck and stuffed it home to give the Panthers a 5-0 lead.

"It was our first game playing together," indicated Gilchrist about his tandem with Gaines. "We had a good week of practice, and it seemed to work out alright. Gilchrist now leads the Panthers in goals with 14, while Maldonado as the team lead in points with 23 points and 19 assists.

"Guys made some nice plays, and as a result, it was probably one of our better efforts in a while not because we scored so many goals, but because people were thinking and making good decisions," said Beaney.

# SPORTSBRIEFS

BY RYAN W. REESE, SPORTS EDITOR

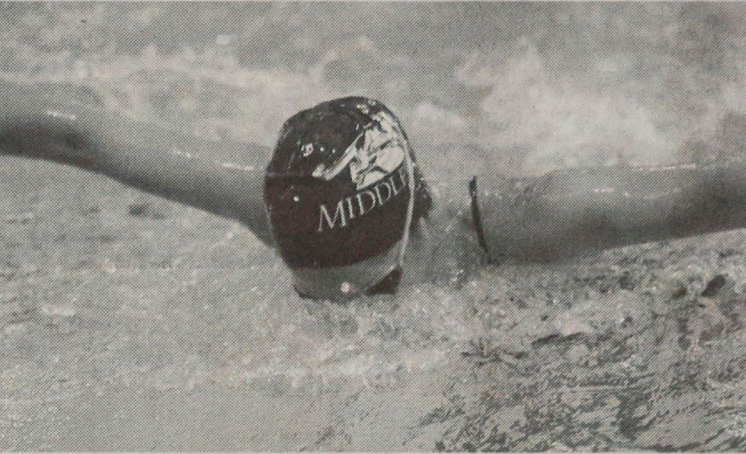
## Mandigo hits career mark

Bill Mandigo added another record to his already impressive resume this past weekend. When Middlebury women's hockey team defeated their counterparts, the Mules of Colby, by a score of 5-3 on Saturday, Mandigo became the winningest coach in NCAA women's hockey history. The game was never really in doubt, with the Panthers leading time on attack. As the final buzzer sounded, the Kenyon Arena announcer sounded the news. Manidgo came on to the ice and accepted a warm applause from the Panther faithful with a humble wave. His 295th victory surpassed the old mark set by John Marchetti. Marchetti strung together 294 wins while coaching at Princeton and Yale between 1981 and 2002. In only 17 years as head coach, Mandigo has accumulated a career mark of 295-82-11 with a winning percentage of .774.



Courtesy

## Women to host NESCACs

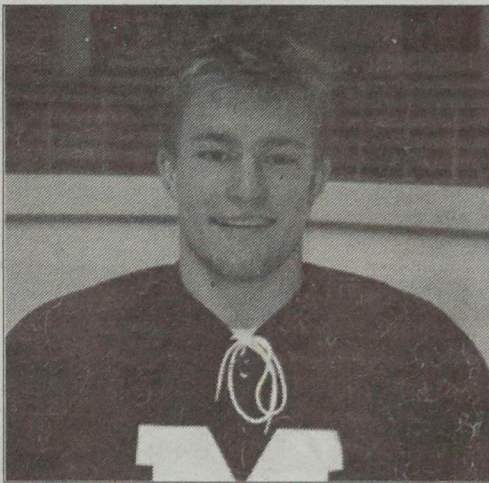


Julia Randall

The Middlebury women's swimming and diving team will be hosting the NESCAC Championships. New England's best will make their way to the Natatorium on Feb. 18. The meet will continue throughout the weekend, concluding on Sunday. Information on the championship meet including statistics, team information and other pertinent information will be released in a special report on the preceding Wednesday. The women's team has ended their dual season with a strong 5-3 mark before swimming well at the M.I.T. Invitational. The very young team, with a strong new corps of underclassmen, has had a promising campaign. With this young talent, there is little doubt that the team will continue their success in years to come. With no meet this past weekend, this week's practice has been spent preparing for the championship. They will be conserving strength throughout the week in order to give their best efforts this coming weekend. After ending NESCAC competition, the only remaining meet is the NCAA National Championship from March 10-12.

## Gilchrist '08 scoops POTW

First-year men's hockey player, Mickey Gilchrist, was honored by the NESCAC by being named Player of the Week. Gilchrist racked up five goals over the weekend and led the Panthers to an impressive win over the Wesleyan Cardinals and a tie against the Bantams of Trinity. He notched two goals and an assist in a 6-0 win against the Cardinals before knocking in an incredible hat trick against NESCAC Champions,



Courtesy

Trinity. With 14 goals on the season, the first-year from Ottawa, Ontario is leading the Panther offensive attack. Middlebury will need as many as they can get this weekend as they face Vermont foes St. Michael's and Norwich. Norwich always plays tough and brings the heat against Middlebury skaters. With their title defense on the line, the Panthers will hope to hit their stride and make a run throughout the NESCAC and NCAA Championships. The NESCAC Championship will be held at Trinity after the Bantams clinched with this weekend's 4-4 knot with the Panthers.



# campusports

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2005

## Panthers advance to NESCAC tournament

### Weekend win over Colby propels Midd to postseason

By Heather Wright  
STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury women's basketball team ended their regular season this past weekend with a record of 11-13 after going 1-1, with a loss against Bowdoin and a win over Colby in Maine. Middlebury now stands in sixth place in the NESCAC rankings. The Panthers will travel to third-ranked Williams on Saturday for the first round of the NESCAC tournament.

Captain Elyse Carlson '05 said, "We ended up our season just below .500, but you can't always measure success through wins and losses. We came into the season young and inexperienced, but everyone has had the chance to gain experience and improve throughout the season. This will be extremely important for the future of the team."

Middlebury faced a buzzer-beating loss at Plattsburgh on Feb. 8, 59-58. The Cardinals opened the game with a 12-0 run and were up by 10 going into halftime.

However, as has continually been the case throughout the season, the Panthers refused to give up and came out strong in the second half. Middlebury went on an 18-2 run to tie the game at 57 with 3:33

left on the clock before losing in the final minutes.

Carlson led the Panthers with 25 points and six steals and "has constantly stepped up and played with fierce focus, the only way I can describe her intensity which has propelled us to all of our wins and close losses," according to Captain Lacey Hebert '06.

The Panthers did not let the loss at Plattsburgh get to them, and they traveled to Maine ready to face a strong Bowdoin team on Friday night. They fell 74-50 as the Polar Bears outmatched Middlebury down low. Carlson had 20 points and seven rebounds, while first-year Kate Fisher had a big game with 16 points and five boards.

On Saturday, Middlebury defeated Colby 66-59, which knocked the Mules out of the tournament and clinched the sixth spot for the Panthers. Middlebury's defense was unstoppable as they forced 28 Colby turnovers. Micaela McVary '06 led the Panthers with 17 points, Maryanne Verzosa '06 had 14 and Fisher had 12.

Carlson called the win important for the Panthers. "It helps our confidence and gives us momentum heading into the playoffs this



Julia Randall

The Panthers drove in to the paint and played tough throughout weekend play in order to advance to NESCACs weekend," she said.

The Panthers are excited to take on Williams this Saturday in the first round of NESCAC tournament. Although the women have fallen victim to the Ephs' buzzsaw two times earlier in the season, there is no doubt that they are feel-

ing confident going into postseason play.

Lani Young '08 noted, "I like our chances going to Williams. I think our keys will be to adopt a fearless attitude, because they are the ones with all the pressure on them. If we are able to use each

other's energy and stay with them for the duration of the game, I think all our experience of fighting will finally come in handy. Nobody on our team is going to go to Williams for a third time and let them take another game from us without putting up a fight."

## Ski racers fly to the podium at Dartmouth

By Kellan Florio  
STAFF WRITER

A week after posting their best performance of the season, the Middlebury women's alpine ski team continued to impress, leading the alpine and nordic ski teams to their fourth consecutive third place result at the Dartmouth Carnival last weekend. Clinging to a three-point lead over University of Ver-

mont (UVM) after Friday's races, Dartmouth could not hold on for the victory on Saturday, marking their first defeat at home since the 2002 season.

Following her victory in last week's slalom, first-year Megan Hughes turned in another golden effort in Friday's giant slalom at the Dartmouth Skiway, taking the victory in 2:09.04.

Teammate Lindsay Brush '07 accompanied Hughes on the podium in second place, just 25 hundredths of a second back. Even more remarkable was their second run charge, which saw Hughes rocket from 19th to first and Brush from 15th to second, a feat almost unheard of in the world of ski racing.

"In the first run I made a huge

mistake on the flats," recounted Hughes. "For the second run I was just relaxed and had nothing to lose, so I went for it and skied a clean, fast run."

"It was exciting to be successful with my teammate," added Brush. "It was my first podium all year and I was so happy to share it with Megan."

Amazed by Hughes' and

Brush's second run heroics, Head Coach Forest Carey exclaimed, "I've never seen anything like it, they were tremendous."

Senior co-captain Jess Smith turned in a solid result coming in sixth, while Kelly Brush '08 and Tara Martin '07 were also impressive, finishing eighth and 13th respectively.

Hughes continued her excellent first-year campaign with a fourth place in Saturday's slalom, less two seconds off the pace set by UVM's Jamie Kingsbury, who led the Catamounts to a clean sweep of the podium. Smith carved her way to another sixth place finish, while first-year Krissie Poehling charged to 14th after laying down one of the fastest runs of the afternoon.

On the men's side, senior co-captain John Rusten skied a strong tactical race to lead the Panthers in sixth place, a second behind winner Warner Nickerson of Colby who claimed his first giant slalom victory of the season in 2:00.95.

"The first run set was completely different than anything I've ever seen at Dartmouth in years past," commented Rusten on the unusual tight turns in the mid-section of the course. "This was good for me because I am typically not very good on flat, easy courses, so I was able to benefit from others' mistakes in that section."

Following Rusten was Joey Swenson '08 in 11th, Clayton Reed '08 in 16th, Dave Coriell '06 in 19th and Peter Phillips '05 in 22nd, who



Courtesy

Sophomore Andrew Everett carves his way through the slalom course during this weekend's Dartmouth Carnival. The team ended in a solid third place.

SEE SKIERS, PAGE 25